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**Ordinance route for anti-conversion Bill**

BENGALURU

The State Cabinet on Thursday decided to take the Ordinance route to get clearance for the Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Bill, 2021.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 4

**Max temperature in Bengaluru dips by 11° C**

BENGALURU

The maximum temperatures are seeing a big drop in many parts of Karnataka, thanks to cyclone Asani. While on Wednesday, Bengaluru had a 9° Celsius departure from normal, on Thursday, it dropped further by 11° Celsius.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 3

**Suggestions to preserve Big Banyan Tree**

BENGALURU

The conservation committee has given a list of recommendations to protect the 400-year-old Big Banyan Tree after heavy rains accompanied by gusty winds on Sunday led to the collapse of a portion of the tree.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 3

# Retail inflation quickens to an almost eight-year high at 7.8%

## April CPI inflation spurred by higher fuel, food costs with CFPI racing at 8.4%

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

Inflation faced by Indian consumers raced to an almost eight-year high of 7.8% in April, from 6.95% in March, with rural inflation accelerating to 8.4%, and urban shoppers experiencing an almost 1 percentage point month-on-month quickening at 7.1%, data released by the National Statistical Office on Thursday show.

Food costs led the surge with inflation measured by the Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) jumping to a 17-month high of 8.4% from March's 7.7%. Food prices rose at a faster clip of 8.5% in rural India.

This is the fourth month in a row that retail inflation has remained above 6%, which is the upper tolerance threshold for inflation under the monetary policy framework. Economists said the sharp acceleration in retail inflation explained the central bank's rush to raise interest rates in an off-cycle meeting last week, adding that the move was likely to be backed by another rate increase in the coming policy review next month.

**Accelerating rates** | India recorded an inflation of 7.79% in April 2022, which is the highest since May 2014. It has stayed above the RBI's tolerance threshold of 6% for the fourth consecutive month

### Crude price surge

"Driven by continued global crude price upsurge which impacts food, fuel and light, and transport and communication prices in the CPI basket, India's April 2022 CPI inflation turned out to be a 95-month high of 7.8%," noted EY India chief policy advisor D.K. Srivastava.

"It was way back in May 2014 that CPI inflation was at 8.3%," recalled. Mr. Srivastava

Rural inflation was also at an eight-year high, while several items reported the highest levels in a long time, India Ratings economists Sunil Kumar Sinha and Paras Jasrai wrote in a note. This included miscellaneous goods and services (at a 115-month high at 8.03%) and education, which was at a 23-month high. Inflation in health services was turning structural, staying above 6% for 16 months now, they pointed out.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

## Less impact on low-income strata: FinMin

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The risk of sustained high inflation was low for India as the recovery in aggregate demand remained 'gradual', the Finance Ministry said earlier on Thursday, ahead of the release of the April inflation data.

India's inflation experience had not been as bad as that of several advanced nations, and rising prices had had a less impact on lower income households, the Ministry contended in its monthly economic review.

"Looking ahead, inflation trajectory will be influenced by geopolitical situation, international commodity prices and supply chain management," it added.

RELATED REPORT ▸ PAGE 12

# Gotabaya appoints Ranil as Sri Lanka Prime Minister

## Premadasa too offers to form govt. if President resigns

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on Thursday appointed former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe as Premier, to restore stability in the island nation amid a political impasse and stifling economic crisis.

This is the sixth time Mr. Wickremesinghe, 73, has been appointed to the office – he has never finished a full term – and will have the task of arresting the devastating impact of the island's economic downturn, that too under President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who is fiercely detested by disgruntled citizens demanding his resignation.

Mr. Gotabaya's older brother Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned as Prime Minister on Monday, hours after his supporters violently attacked anti-government protesters.

Mr. Wickremesinghe's United National Party (UNP) was decimated in the 2020 general polls, in which the Rajapaksas secured a two-thirds majority. Mr. Wickremesinghe is currently the only Member of Parliament from his party. Although he lost the 2020 general elections, the UNP nominated him to the legislature on the national list, through Sri Lanka's proportional representation system that allocates political parties a certain number of seats based on total votes polled.

**Big task:** Ranil Wickremesinghe visiting a Buddhist temple after taking oath as the PM in Colombo on Thursday. • AFP

Just ahead of the 2020 poll, Mr. Wickremesinghe's former deputy Sajith Premadasa broke away from the UNP and formed the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB or United People's Force), the main Opposition party now. Mr. Wickremesinghe's majority in Parliament is contingent on substantial support from the ruling party. Most of its members have promised to back him, according to political sources.

Mr. Premadasa, the Leader of the Opposition, said he was willing to form a new government if the President committed to stepping down within "a minimum time frame". Mr. Premadasa made his offer conditional, seeking new laws to strengthen Parliament and abolish Executive Presidency.

Mr. Mahinda was one of the first leaders to wish Mr. Wickremesinghe.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

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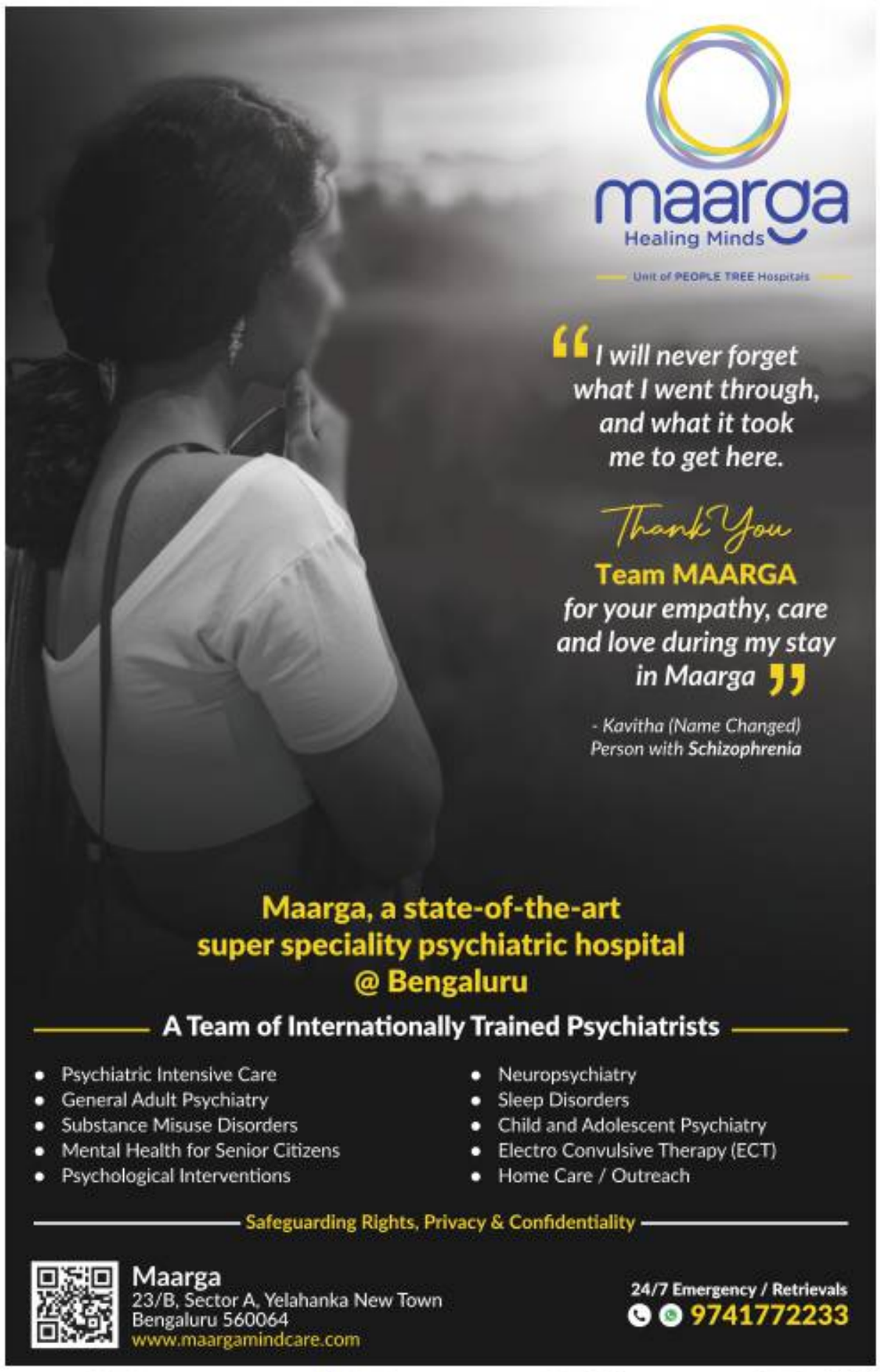

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# Text & Context

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## NEWS IN NUMBERS

### Urban development

**12** In ₹ lakh crore, the expenditure incurred on urban development schemes by the Indian Government in the last eight years, according to Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri. He added that the amount was eight times more than the amount spent between 2004 and 2014 during the United Progressive Alliance rule, which spent ₹1.57 lakh crore during their tenure. The minister was speaking at 'PlumbEx India', a three-day exhibition on plumbing, water, and sanitation products, organised by the Indian Plumbing Association (IPA). PTI

### Marital rape

**34** The number of countries where marital rape is still not criminalised. India is among them, as the Delhi High Court's split verdict on the issue, failed to strike down the alleged discriminatory clause under Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code. According to the National Family Health Survey-5, 32% of ever-married Indian women have experienced spousal physical, sexual, or emotional violence. The UN Women report revealed that most countries where marital rape was not criminalised were developing nations. PTI

### Coal crisis

**417** The number of rakes utilised by coal companies to carry coal to power plants, against a demand of 456 rakes, according to official data. This is despite the fact that the Railways on average have been providing 498 rakes on a daily basis. Coal-powered plants are facing fuel supply issues and need to scale up their production to meet the heightened power demand due to unprecedented heatwaves in India. On average, the Railways have put 26,386 wagons into service on a daily basis this year so far for coal rakes. PTI

### Digital health solutions

**13** The number of digital health solutions successfully added to the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) in the last three months, according to the National Health Authority (NHA). This takes the tally of ABDM integrated service applications to 40 since the national launch was announced on September 27, 2021. The ABDM scheme aims to develop the backbone necessary to support the integrated digital health infrastructure of India and bridge the existing gap in the healthcare ecosystem through digital highways. PTI

### Indo-Israeli cooperation

**75** The number of Indian villages to be shaped with Israeli cooperation to mark India's 75th Independence anniversary, according to Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar. The Minister added that the step was taking the Indo-Israel cooperation to the "next level" in the field of agriculture. Mr. Tomar, who was in Israel on a four-day official visit from May 8, met with his Israeli counterpart, Oded Forer and discussed issues related to modern agro-techniques and transfer of knowledge in agriculture. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

# On the question of notifying minorities

Who assigns minority status to communities — Centre, States or both?

VARGHESE K. GEORGE

## THE GIST

- Section 2(f) of the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions says "minority ,"for the purpose of this Act, means a community notified as such by the Central Government."
- The PIL argues that the Centre's notification has created an anomalous situation in which the communities declared as minorities by the Centre enjoy the status even in States/UTs where they are in majority.
- Six communities are currently notified as minority communities at the national level — Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Parsis and Jains.

**The story so far:** A public interest litigation (PIL) under the consideration of the Supreme Court of India challenges the power of the Centre to notify minority communities at a national level.

**Who is a minority and who decides that?**
The PIL specifically questions the validity of Section 2(f) of the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions or NCMEI Act 2004, terming it arbitrary and contrary to Articles 14, 15, 21, 29 and 30 of the Constitution. Section 2(f) says "minority ,"for the purpose of this Act, means a community notified as such by the Central Government." Section 2(c) of the of National Commission for Minorities (NCM) Act, 1992 also gives the Centre similar powers.

**The Centre filed two affidavits in the case in which it reiterated that it had the power to notify minority communities**

In 2005, the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) at the Centre notified five communities – Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis – as minorities at the national level. In 2014, the Manmohan Singh government notified followers of Jainism as a minority community, making them the sixth on the national list.

**What does the PIL argue?**
The petitioner argues that the Centre's decision was arbitrary since the SC had held, in the *T. M. A. Pai Foundation vs State Of Karnataka* case of 2002 that, "for the purpose of determining minority, the unit will be State and not whole India." The petitioner argued that the Centre's notification has created an anomalous situation in which the communities declared as minorities by the Centre enjoy the status even in States/UTs where they are in majority (Muslims in Jammu and Kashmir and Christians in Nagaland for instance) while followers of Hinduism, Judaism and Bahaism who are minorities are not accorded the same status under the Act.

The petition seeks the SC to curtail the Centre's power to notify national minorities or direct the Centre to notify followers of Hinduism, Bahaism and Judaism as minorities in States/UTs where they are actually fewer in numbers; or direct that only those communities that are "socially, economically and politically non-dominant" besides being numerically smaller in States/UTs be allowed the status of minorities.

The Supreme Court of India in New Delhi. • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

**How has the Centre responded?**
The Centre filed two affidavits in the case, the second one on May 9, suppressing its first affidavit that was filed on March 25. In both, the Centre said it had the power to notify minority communities. In the first, the Centre categorically defended the concept of minorities at the national level; in the second, it remains silent on that specific question. In other words, the Centre has not taken a position, one way or the other, about continuing the national list of minorities while it reiterated its power to notify communities as minorities under Central Acts. In the first affidavit, the Centre had pointed out that it had concurrent powers with States to take measures for the welfare of minorities. States could have minorities notified as such within their jurisdiction, and it even cited the examples of Maharashtra recognising Jews as a minority community and Karnataka recognising speakers of several languages as linguistic minorities. In the second affidavit there is no such elaboration. While it says the power is vested in it, the affidavit does not go as far as questioning the powers of the State on this question.

In the first affidavit, the Centre said the pleas made by the petitioner must be rejected; in the second, the Centre said the PIL dealt with 'vital' issues and sought time to consult with all stakeholders before it could take a position. In the first instance, the Centre went on to defend the constitution of the new Ministry of Minority Affairs and the Sachar Committee that studied the backwardness of Muslims in India – both UPA measures, criticised by the Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party then. In the second affidavit on May 9, the Centre did not defend these decisions of the previous Congress regime.

The May 9 affidavit, in fact, leaves all questions open, other than the emphatic claim that the Centre has the power to notify minorities under the two Acts.

**What next?**
The Centre's second affidavit leaves its own stand on the entire issue ambiguous, and perhaps it was intended that way. The Centre has said it would come back to the apex court "after consideration of several sociological and other aspects." It said "any stand without detailed deliberations with stakeholders may result in an unintended complication for the country." Though the power is vested with the Central government, it would consult the States and other stakeholders.

EXPLAINER

# The India hypertension control initiative

How do States in the country fare on the hypertension spectrum? Which States have a higher percentage of blood pressure?

JACOB KOSHY

## THE GIST

- Hypertension was defined as having systolic blood pressure level greater than or equal to 140 mmHg or diastolic blood pressure level greater than or equal to 90 mmHg or/and taking anti-hypertensive medication to lower his/her blood pressure.
- The India Hypertension Control Initiative has found that nearly one-fourth of (23%) patients under the programme had uncontrolled blood pressure.
- Kerala ranks highest with 32.8% men and 30.9% women being diagnosed with hypertension.

**The story so far:** A project called the India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI) finds that nearly 23% out of 2.1 million Indians have uncontrolled blood pressure.

**What is the IHCI?**
Recognising that hypertension is a serious, and growing, health issue in India, the Health Ministry, the Indian Council of Medical Research, State Governments, and WHO-India began a five-year initiative to monitor and treat hypertension. Hypertension is defined as having systolic blood pressure level greater than or equal to 140 mmHg or diastolic blood pressure level greater than or equal to 90 mmHg or/and taking anti-hypertensive medication to lower his/her blood pressure.

India has committed to a "25 by 25" goal, which aims to reduce premature mortality due to non-communicable diseases (NCDs) by 25% by 2025. One of the nine voluntary targets includes reducing the prevalence of high blood pressure by 25% by 2025.

The programme was launched in November 2017. In the first year, IHCI covered 26 districts across five States – Punjab, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, and Maharashtra. By December 2020, IHCI was expanded to 52 districts across ten States – Andhra Pradesh (1), Chhattisgarh (2), Karnataka (2), Kerala (4), Madhya Pradesh (6), Maharashtra (13), Punjab (5), Tamil Nadu (1), Telangana (13) and West Bengal (5).

**How many have been enrolled in the programme?**
As of December 2021, 101 districts across 19 States had commenced project activities. The project districts enrolled almost 21 lakh patients across 13,821 health facilities. In the 26 initial districts, one fifth of the expected patients were enrolled. State wise proportions were Maharashtra (27%), Kerala (22.6%), Madhya Pradesh (18.7%), Telangana (18.6%) and Punjab (14.2%).

Managing blood pressure for 2.5 crore individuals can prevent up to five lakh deaths due to cardiovascular disease in the next 10 years.

**What has the IHCI found so far?**
Its most important discovery so far is that nearly one-fourth of(23%) patients under the programme had uncontrolled blood pressure, and 27% did not return for a follow-up in the first quarter of 2021. There were an estimated 20 crore adults with hypertension in the country. To achieve India's target of a 25% relative reduction in the prevalence of raised blood pressure, approximately 4.5 crore additional people with hypertension need to get their blood pressure under control by 2025.

Of a million patients registered in five phase I and three phase II States till Dec 2020, 7.4 lakhs were under care between April 2020 to March 2021. Nearly half (47%) of the registered patients under care had blood pressure under control during the most recent visit in the first quarter of 2021. Drug availability improved in all phase I States with at least one-month refills for key blood pressure drugs. Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana had stocks for nearly six months for protocol drugs. Kerala had only one month stock and Maharashtra had two months stock available in May 2021. Availability of drugs was a challenge in most phase II States and procurement process took nearly one year from planning.

There weren't enough validated high-quality digital blood pressure monitors in several health facilities, which affected accuracy of hypertension diagnosis. In phase I States, dedicated nurses were insufficient except in Telangana and Maharashtra. In phase II States, most districts did not have dedicated NCD nurses at public health care centres level except Chennai.

**How prevalent is the problem of hypertension?**
Southern States have a higher prevalence of hypertension than the national average, according to the latest edition of the National Family Health Survey. While 21.3% of women and 24% of men aged above 15 have hypertension in the country, the prevalence is the highest in Kerala where 32.8% men and 30.9% women have been diagnosed with hypertension.

Kerala is followed by Telangana where the prevalence is 31.4% in men and 26.1% in women.

About one-fourth of women and men aged 40 to 49 years have hypertension. Even at an earlier age, one in eight women and more than one in five men aged 30 to 39 years have hypertension. The prevalence of hypertension is higher among Sikhs (37% for men and 31% for women), Jains (30% for men and 25% for women), and Christians (29% for men and 26% for women) than the rest.

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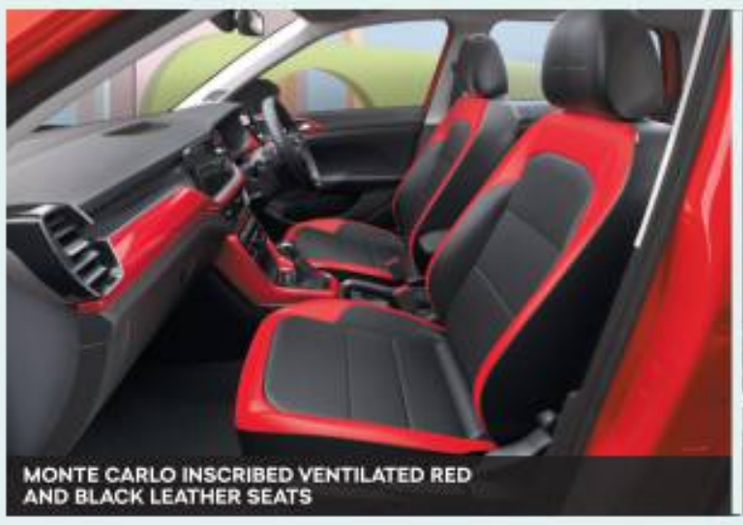

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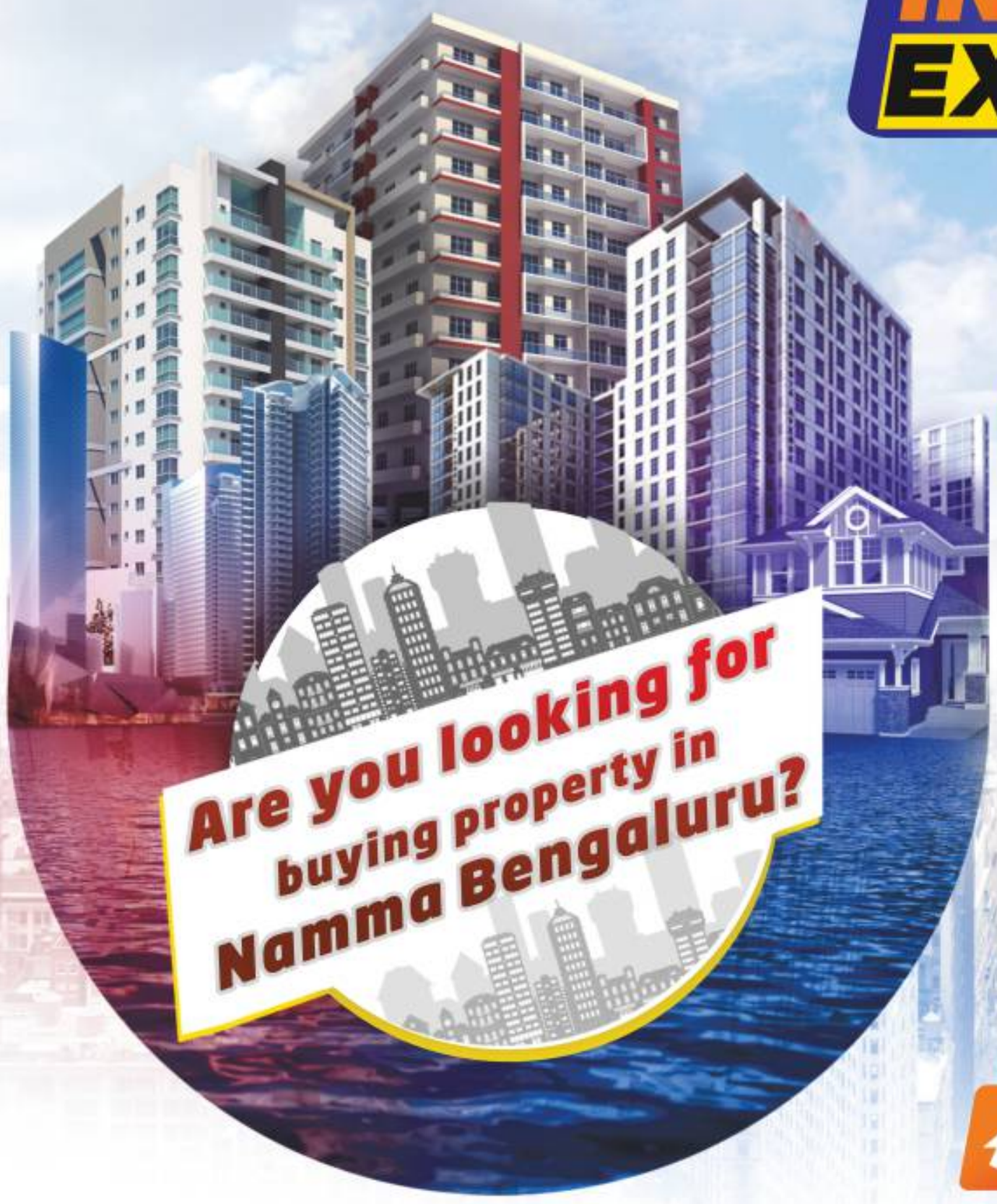

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IN THE LIMELIGHT

# Documenting Roe on-screen

## How debates around abortion have been portrayed in cinema and beyond

TAMMA MOKSHA

## THE GIST

- *Reversing Roe*, an Emmy-nominated documentary which traces the history of abortion rights.
- The imagery used to depict abortions, the values associated with the act and the interpretation of movies which talk about abortion fluctuated depending on the socio-political context they were produced in.
- Abortions in recent shows and movies does not form the crux of a woman's character, it just works like any other event in her life. Shows like *Euphoria* and *Sex Education* show the phenomenon just like another life experience.

It has emerged in recent weeks that the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) has privately voted to strike down the constitutional right to abortion as determined by the landmark *Roe vs Wade* case in 1973, according to a draft of the majority opinion which was leaked by *Politico*.

This has also brought to light *Reversing Roe*, an Emmy-nominated documentary currently streaming on Netflix, directed by Ricki Stern and Annie Sundberg, which traces the history of abortion rights.

The documentary covers roughly 50 years of the history of abortion in about 100 minutes. *Reversing Roe* contextualises the politicisation of the issue of abortion which was once, according to Linda Greenhouse, an abortion historian, considered a social and medical problem. By highlighting the key events that made the issue of abortion a partisan issue in the U.S. today, the documentary stitches together interviews with chaplains, medical experts, feminists, senators, and advocates of pro-life and pro-choice movements to present the audience with an accurate chronology of abortion rights in the country.

### On the silver and small screen

Abortion as a theme is not alien to the silver screen. The topic, as a plot point, made noise even during the era of silent films, with titles such as *Where Are My Children*, a silent drama written and produced by America's first woman director Lois Weber. However, their interpretation by the audience, the imagery used to depict the act, and the values associated with the act fluctuated depending on the socio-political context they were produced in. For instance, in *Where Are My Children*, a woman who gets an abortion to prevent children from interfering with her social life, is shown to go on to lead a life of longing for a family she might have had if she did not go through the procedure.

Abortion – an issue that is usually associated with second-wave feminism – broke through the silver screen even before the demands of the first wave were realised.

Two decades after the success of TV shows like *I Love Lucy* that familiarised viewers with the format, the subject of abortion breached the walls of the living rooms of everyday Americans with *Maude*. A two-part episode in the first season titled 'Maude's Dilemma' shows Maude, who is 47 years old, contemplating the option of abortion with her husband who affirms her agency and promises to stand by her. Mere two months after the episode's release, the 7-2 majority opinion of the SCOTUS which was written by Justice Harry Blackmun paved way for the recognition of abortion as a constitutional right in the U.S., effectively striking down a wide range of state-level abortion limitations applied before foetal viability.

The subject (of abortion) since, has started to appear relatively frequently on the silver and the small screen. Even after legalisation, directors and writers like Eleanor Bergstein felt the need to highlight the plight of women seeking abortion in the pre-Roe era to serve as cautionary tales. In the 1987 romantic dance drama *Dirty Dancing* which is set in 1963, Bergstein showcased abortion as a key theme. The descriptions of folding tables and dirty knives used during her illegal abortion that almost end up killing Rockette Penny (Cynthia Rhodes) are spelt out loud and clear for the audience to highlight the grave and life-threatening nature of illegal abortions. Movies like *Portrait of a Lady on Fire* have also brought to the fore the lengths women have been willing to go from time immemorial to get an abortion.

### On a backfoot

*Roe vs Wade* was not the SCOTUS's last word on abortion. In the 1992 *Planned Parenthood vs Casey case*, the SCOTUS while upholding *Roe vs Wade*, reformulated it to allow states to persuade a woman to carry a pregnancy to term. The American family drama series *This Is Us* in season five shines a light on the growing restrictions surrounding abortions. Kate Pearson (Chrissy Metz) as an 18-year-old in late-1990s Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania opts for an abortion. At the clinic, she is asked very specific, pointed questions about her decision and is then required to come back another day for the actual abortion, subtly depicting the ordeal of getting an abortion.

While these shows and movies serve as reminders, other titles like *The Handmaid's Tale* challenge us to imagine a society that is built on controlling the womb.

While fictional shows and movies have attempted to intentionally or otherwise reflect the social and cultural consensus surrounding abortions during their time, documentaries like *Reversing Roe* while giving a historical context, play the role of support groups. When an older feminist like Gloria Steinem shares her experience of getting an illegal abortion from a doctor in England (to whom she later dedicated her book *My Life on the Road*), on-screen, it de-stigmatises abortions.

The restrictions started to grow from the 1992 ruling. After making their way to the White House in 2001, conservatives soon passed the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act, 2003 (PBA Ban). Movies succeeding this which had an abortion in their plot like *Knocked Up* and *Juno* took a rather conservative editorial stance with *Knocked Up* replacing the word "abortion" with "the A word" in its dialogue.

*Reversing Roe*, while documenting the events preceding the passing of the PBA Ban notes that public support was garnered in support of the bill by using gruesome imagery to depict abortions. Movies in the past are also guilty of using the genre of body horror to colour the minds of the audience concerning the subject of abortions.

While restrictions continued even throughout the 2010s with about 300 abortion restrictions being passed in the U.S. between 2010 and 2018, movies became more vocal, with a pro-choice President in office in the early 2010s who openly voiced his support to organisations like Planned Parenthood. Advances in medicine and medical procedures surrounding abortions also meant a change in the way they were portrayed. Directors and writers also started to use humour to navigate the questions surrounding the subject in cases like *Obvious Child*, *Unpregnant*, and *Grandma*.

Thankfully, abortion in recent shows and movies does not form the crux of a woman's character, it just works like any other event in her life. Shows like *Euphoria* and *Sex Education* show the phenomenon just like another life experience; the characters do not weigh the burden of abortion on their shoulders and their story, like in real life, goes on.

### Representation in Indian cinema

Indian cinema on the other hand seems to have maintained a consensus that abortion is morally wrong.

Women who decide to carry their pregnancy to term despite material and medical challenges are hailed – at the cost of their misery. In the 2004 romance thriller *Aitraaz*, Sonia (Priyanka Chopra) who opts for an abortion because she believes having a child will hinder her path to power and wealth is tainted and portrayed in a negative light. Movies like *Raahi* and *Mimi* brush aside the option of abortion quickly by ushering in a feeling of piety for the foetus. However, Malayalam cinema seems to be initiating a progressive conversation with the recent Anna Ben-starrer *Sara's* paving the way.

However, women in cinema continue to churn out stories that open our eyes to the fragile rights that govern women's bodies, with the latest being the 2021 Golden Lion winner, French drama thriller *Happening*. Their impact on society cannot be underestimated, and are the need of the hour, for silence in cases like these equals complicity.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

# Know your English

"Good morning, sir."

"Good morning."

Sir, how do you pronounce 'cabbage'?"

"It is *kabij*. The second syllable rhymes with 'bridge'. The 'a' in 'ka' is as in 'man'. In words like village, savage, manage also 'age' is pronounced 'ij'. *Vilij*, *Sawij*, *Manij*. Is this clear?"

"Yes, sir. Sir, tell me more about jargon."

"Yes. Let's continue with jargon. Don't say 'He pursued his tasks indefatigably'. It is better to say 'He worked hard'. In ordinary writing and speech there should be clarity and sincerity. We are not dealing with literary language here. In Britain, Government departments have been asked to write plain English. The idea behind this is that the average citizen must be able to understand the language of the Government.

Edwin Newman is an American TV news commentator. He says of jargon that 'It serves as a fence that keeps others outside and respectful, or leads them to ignore what is going on because it is too much trouble to find out'. In the hands of jargonaunts, language becomes automatic. That is, like instant coffee, they produce instant expressions. It is not the result of any thinking. People who use a lot of jargon tend to be reflexive rather than reflective. George Orwell in his 'Politics and the English Language' attacks jargon severely and says:

"Modern writing at its worst does not consist in picking out words for the sake of their meaning and inventing images in order to make the meaning clearer. It consists in gumming together long strips of words which have already been set in order by someone else, and making the results presentable by sheer humbug .... They will construct your sentences for you – even think your thoughts for you, to a certain extent – and at need they will perform the important service of partially concealing your meaning even from yourself."

He has given some rules for writers to follow: (1) Never use a metaphor, simile or other figure of speech which you are used to seeing in print (2) Never use a long word where a short one will do. (3) If it is possible to cut a word out, always cut it out. (4) Never use the passive when you can use the active. (5) Never use a foreign phrase, a scientific word or a jargon word if you can think of an everyday English equivalent. (6) Break any of these rules sooner than say anything outright barbarous. We'll take these up one by one. The most important thing to remember is that good writing is not a collection of beautiful phrases or idioms. Good writing is the result of clear thinking. Let's stop here for the day. Goodbye."

"Thank you sir, Goodbye."

THE DAILY QUIZ

## The first student protests at Tiananmen Square in Beijing began on May 13, 1989. Here's a quiz on famous protest movements from history

**1** This name of this movement is an allusion to the Revolutions of 1848, sometimes referred to as the 'Springtime of Nations'. It is also believed to be a reference to the Prague Spring of 1968, in which a Czech student set himself ablaze, just as Mohamed Bouazizi did in December 2010, catalysing this particular movement. Identify the movement.

**2** Jeff Widener, an American photographer, is best known for this image taken in Tiananmen Square in the aftermath of the protests of 1989, making him a finalist for the 1990 Pulitzer. In the photo, a person can be seen in the middle of a wide avenue, directly in the path of a column of approaching Type 59 tanks. What is this image popularly known as?

**3** This Indian movement originated in 1973 in Uttarakhand and set the precedent for many environmental movements around the world. Although it is today not associated with this term, the Garhwali word angaliwaltha (meaning 'embrace') was used to describe the activities of the protestors. Name this movement, which later adopted the Hindi word for 'embrace' as its title.

**4** In Afrikaans, this term means 'separateness', or 'the state of being apart'. Identify this term, whose first recorded use was in 1929.

**5** July 14 is observed as a national holiday in France to mark an event from 1789, in which revolutionaries stormed and seized control of the armoury, fortress, and a political prison. Although the prison contained only seven inmates at the time, it was considered a symbol of the monarchy's abuse of power. Name this prison whose fall was a flashpoint of the French Revolution.

**6** This poem, written by Bismil Azimabadi, is an ode to Indian freedom fighters. It was written in 1921, following the Jallianwala Bagh massacre and other forms of cruelty by British colonialists. The poem has also been used by various mass movements, including the anti-CAA protests. Identify the poem.

**7** Founded by Tarana Burke, this movement became a social phenomenon in October 2017. Name the movement.

◄ Identify this entity that separated a country in central Europe. It came down on November 9, 1989, five days after half a million people gathered in a mass protest against it.

Please send in your answers to the **dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in**

**Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:** 1. The first recorded trial under Section 124A of the sedition law in India was against this newspaper editor. **Ans: Jogendra Chandra Bose, editor of *Bangobasi***

2. Justice R. S. Broomfield sentenced this person who was standing trial for sedition exactly 100 years ago. **Ans: Mahatma Gandhi**

3. Bal Gangadhar Tilak's lawyer who was acting on his behalf when he was sentenced for sedition after publishing an article in his newspaper *Kesari* defending the actions of Khudiram Bose and Prafulla Chaki. **Ans: Mohammad Ali Jinnah**

4. The judge who passed the verdict sentencing Lokmanya Tilak to imprisonment in 1908. **Ans: Justice Dinshaw Davar**

5. A participant in the freedom movement, this person was tried for sedition in 1962 in a case where the Supreme Court, while upholding the law, defined the scope for its use. **Ans: Kedar Nath Singh**

Visual: This person was a member of the Constituent Assembly and later a founder of the Vishva Hindu Parishad. **Ans: K.M. Munshi**

**Early Birds:** Aditi Chandel| Madhukar Thalore| Rohith Natraj| Prashant Soni| Akram Khan

**Compiled by: Ranjani Srinivasan**

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

**Timings**
**BENGALURU**

| | |
|---|---|
| **FRIDAY, MAY. 13** | |
| RISE 05:55 | SET 18:37 |
| RISE 16:02 | SET 03:34 |
| **SATURDAY, MAY. 14** | |
| RISE 05:55 | SET 18:37 |
| RISE 16:57 | SET 04:15 |
| **SUNDAY, MAY. 15** | |
| RISE 05:55 | SET 18:38 |
| RISE 17:56 | SET 05:00 |

| Bengaluru Weather | max | min |
|---|---|---|
| Tumakuru | 30 | 24 |
| Mysuru | 29 | 21 |
| Bengaluru | 23 | 19 |

**Bengaluru Today**
**26°C** The weather will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of rain and thundershower with gusty winds are likely.

**Bengaluru Tomorrow**
**25°C** A slight warm and humid weather to prevail.Night will be pleasant. One or two spells of rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
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# Chilly summer: City's max temperature dips further by 11° C

## The minimum temperature was 3 degrees Celsius below normal at 19.5; across Karnataka, most districts reported drop in temperature

KARNATAKA BUREAU
BENGALURU

'Summer holidays' are turning into cloudy, chilly days as maximum temperatures are seeing a big drop in many parts of Karnataka, thanks to cyclone Asani. While on Wednesday, Bengaluru had a 9 degrees Celsius departure from normal, on Thursday, it dropped further by 11 degrees Celsius.

On Thursday, the maximum temperature in the city was 23 degrees Celsius, 11 degrees Celsius below normal. The minimum temperature was 19.5 degrees Celsius – 3 degrees Celsius below normal.

This was further lower than the previous days' temperatures, which had set a record of sorts for being one of the lowest maximum temperatures in at least 10 years. While on May 10, the maximum temperature was 24.3 degrees Celsius, on Wednesday it was 25 degrees Celsius.

Mysuru and surrounding regions have been experiencing intermittent rains coupled with drop in temperature. • M.A. SRIRAM

Geeta Agnihotri, Director, India Meteorological Department (IMD), Bengaluru, told *The Hindu* that in the last 54 years, Bengaluru city recorded the lowest maximum of 22.2 degrees Celsius for May in 1972 on the 14th. "In the last 10 years, 24.3 degrees Celsius was recorded on May 11, 2022," she said.

According to the IMD, Bengaluru's data, the city's highest maximum temperature in May was 38.9 degrees Celsius recorded on May 22, 1931, while the lowest was 16.7 degrees Celsius on May 6, 1945. The daily mean maximum temperature for the month is 33.3 degrees Celsius and minimum 21.7 degrees Celsius.

Generally, cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers have been forecast until Friday, and partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers until May 16. The maximum temperature is expected to touch 30 degrees Celsius on May 18, while it will remain between 24 degrees Celsius and 29 degrees Celsius before that.

Similar conditions were recorded in the rest of the State too. In the coastal belt, it drizzled in Mangaluru and Udupi cities and there was cloudy weather. However, some places like Karkala, Kukke Subrahmanya and other areas on the foothills of the Western Ghats received good rain.

The maximum temperature in Mangaluru was 27.6 degrees Celsius – a 7 degrees Celsius departure from normal.

The temperature dropped in Mysuru and surrounding areas too. According to the IMD, Mysuru recorded a maximum temperature of 30.1 degrees Celsius during the 24-hour period ending 8.30 a.m. on Thursday. This was 3.9 degrees Celsius below normal. The neighbouring district of Mandya recorded a maximum temperature of 27.4 degrees Celsius during the same period. This was 7.2 degrees Celsius below normal.

Shivamogga had a steep temperature drop and the maximum temperature was 25 degrees Celsius, 10.6 degrees Celsius below normal.

The Karnataka State Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC) reported that minimum temperature in the range of 17 degrees Celsius to 20 degrees Celsius was recorded in parts of Kodagu, Chamarajanagar, Mysuru, Hassan and a few other districts.

In Mysuru and surrounding regions, there were intermittent drizzles on Thursday with thick cloud cover akin to an early onset of monsoon. Rainfall was recorded at Mysuru, Naganahalli, Saligrama, Bherya, K.R. Nagar, Bilikere and other places while Mandya Srirangapatna, Pandavapura, K.R. Pet and K.R. Sagar reported significant rainfall ranging from 1 cm to 3 cm, according to IMD. The forecast for the next 24 to 48 hours hours indicate no significant change and the weather will be generally cloudy.

Due to the cyclone impact, a few parts of Bombay-Karnataka received rains on Thursday, while rest remained cloudy.

In Kalyana-Karnataka, it was cloudy throughout the day with no rains.

## Nurse punched in face, robbed of gold chain

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Two scooter-borne men robbed a gold chain from a 55-year-old nurse while she was walking to work, and punched her face when she tried to resist, at Banashankari 7th Block on Tuesday evening. The accused confronted her and tried to run over her. She jumped to safety, but the pillion rider pulled her gold chain worth ₹20,000, from her neck.

When she tried to resist, the accused punched her face and broke her teeth while the rider pulled out a knife and threatened to stab her. Sudhamani shouted for help, prompting passers-by to rush to her help, but the duo sped away. Sudhamani was taken to hospital for treatment. Based on her complaint, the police have taken up a case of robbery.

## Man belts PSI, arrested

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The police arrested a man who allegedly assaulted a PSI and his colleague with a belt in Shivananda Circle on Wednesday.

Abhishek B., a PSI (probation) and head constable Basavaraj Badiger were on rounds when they noticed a crowd outside an ice cream shop around 1 a.m., and tried to disperse them. However, the accused, Sunil Ramachandra, who was in the crowd, came forward, pulled out his belt, and began assaulting the PSI. Mr. Abhishek alerted the control room seeking backup to arrest the accused. He was brought to the station and charged with assaulting a public servant.

# Committee gives list of suggestions to preserve Big Banyan Tree

## Heavy rains and gusty winds on Sunday led to collapse of a portion of the tree

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The conservation committee has given a list of recommendations to protect the 400-year-old Big Banyan Tree (Dodda Aalada Mara) – an iconic landmark located in Kethohalli, off Mysuru Road – after heavy rains accompanied by gusty winds on Sunday led to the collapse of a portion of the tree.

The Big Banyan Tree Conservation Committee, headed by ecologist Yallappa Reddy and botanist Sanjappa, visited the site on Thursday and provided several recommendations to protect the tree from natural threats.

"The unexpected heavy rains on Sunday created a whirlwind due to which 300-400 trees were uprooted in the city. The Big Banyan Tree was not an exception. The extraordinary windforce led to the uprooting of a small portion of the tree", explained Mr. Reddy after his inspection of the site. He added that the committee has recommended the use of a technique to replant the fallen roots in the empty spaces around the tree. "We have given technical inputs in such a way that the enrichment work which will be carried out now will be three times more than the damage caused by natural forces to the tree," he said.

A part of the 400-year-old Big Banyan Tree that got uprooted due to heavy rain in Bengaluru. • K. MURALI KUMAR

Local residents allege that the development work taken up by the Horticulture Department near the tree to create a lawn caused the weakening of the roots. "A few hanging roots have fallen down last year and the officials have not cared much about it. This time, it has gotten a lot of attention as a whole clump fell down", said a regular visitor to the park.

"They have taken up some construction work to make a new pathway and make grass lawns. For this, they have dug up the land and also collected extra soil to refill it from the tree's base. This is why roots of the trees here are getting weak and not able to stand heavy winds and rains", alleged R. Mruthyunjaya, a resident and environment enthusiast.

The department as well as the experts committee refuted these claims. "The department is not creating a lawn. Only buffalo grass is being planted there to maintain the moisture levels in the soil and also to prevent soil erosion. That work has had no adverse effects on the tree" Dr. Sanjappa told *The Hindu*.

Several trees in the neighbouring area were also uprooted earlier this week due to the rain. The collapsed portion of the banyan tree also damaged a gazebo which was built as a tourist attraction. The Horticulture Department claimed that the overall damage caused to the tree is only 1-2%. "Out of around 595 roots, only 6-7 were uprooted", said M. Jagadeesh, Joint Director (Parks and Gardens), Horticulture Department. He added that the department will start acting on the recommendations of the committee from Friday itself and some of the work will also be finished on the same day.

## School booked under JJ Act

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Mahalakshmi Layout police on Wednesday registered a case against Narayana E-Techno school situated in Nandini Layout for allegedly harassing the children for fee. Based on a complaint filed by Ramesh V., BEO , north division, the police charged the school administration and teachers under various sections of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act.

**Students harassed**

In his complaint, Mr. Ramesh said that the school allegedly harassed the students over payment of the fee in violation of the Government Order.

Many parents complained to the BEO office, following which Mr. Ramesh sent reminders and warnings, but the management and the teachers continued to harass the students, he alleged.

The police are waiting for the school to reopen so that they can question the students and the teachers. "We have asked the CWC members to help the police in recording the statement of children," a police officer said.

## Shivaram Karanth Layout: 480 buildings regularised

Many buildings, which are being regularised in the layout, were developed between 2014 and 2018. • FILE PHOTO

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Supreme Court has given orders to regularise 480 buildings in Dr. Shivaram Karanth Layout according to the recommendations of the 14th report submitted by Justice A.V. Chandrashekhar Committee, said a release on Thursday.

The apex court has regularised a total of 2,825 buildings, which are coming up in 17 villages, until now. The layout is being developed by the Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA).

The court has also ordered the BDA to issue Regularisation Certificates (RC) as well as legal betterment fees to the building owners under the headship of Justice A.V. Chandrashekhar Committee. The regularised building owners will be intimated through SMS to collect their certificates. The certificates will be issued at Medi Agrahara Urdu Primary School near the layout on Friday.

To receive certificates, beneficiaries should carry a passport size photograph, Aadhar card, the intimation SMS and the receipt given by the committee, the release said.

Many buildings which are now being regularised were developed in the period between December 2014 and March 2018. In 2014, the High Court of Karnataka quashed the preliminary notification for the acquisition of land for the Layout. In 2018, the Supreme Court had upheld the notification and also gave an order to develop the layout.

A total of 7,161 applications were received by the committee earlier for regularisation of buildings in the layout.

# Apply for loudspeaker permit by May 25: Police

## Jurisdictional ACPs designated as licensing authority and enforcement officer for use of loudspeakers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru City Police Commissioner on Thursday asked people and establishments who require licence to use loudspeakers to submit an application to the jurisdictional Assistant Commissioner of Police by May 25.

According to a release, the jurisdictional ACPs have been designated as the licensing authority and enforcement officer for the use of loudspeakers.

> **The morning azaan shall not be called on loudspeaker or public address system as per the SC direction and Government Order.**
>
> ABDUL AZEEM
> Chairman of the State Minority Commission

A loudspeaker or a public address system can be used only after obtaining written permission from the authority. After the deadline, the jurisdictional police will launch a drive to check the noise pollution level as per the new orders.

Meanwhile, Abdul Azeem, Chairman of the State Minority Commission, clarified in a release that the government circular dated May 10, 2022, clearly stipulated that a loudspeaker or public address system shall not be used at night between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., except in closed premises for communication within auditorium, conference room, community hall or banquet hall.

Mr. Azeem categorically stated that the morning azaan shall not be called on loudspeaker or public address system as per the SC direction and Government Order.

However, there are no restrictions for azaan for Zahar, Asar, Maghrib and Isha prayers through loudspeakers after following the decibel levels fixed by the government, he added. Mr. Azeem appealed to locals to follow the SC directions and Government Order strictly to avoid any action from the enforcing authorities.

## Diktat to zonal commissioners

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

To effectively implement the services provided by the BBMP to the public, Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath has directed all zonal commissioners to be present in their zonal limits between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. daily.

## Seven arrested in kidnap-murder case

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Seven persons, who were allegedly involved in the kidnap and murder of a 20-year-old youth on May 9 over an old rivalry, were arrested by the Bommanahalli police on Thursday. The accused, on May 9, abducted Suhas Amul in an autorickshaw from outside a wine store, took him to an isolated place in Basavapura in Electronics City, and stabbed him to death, the police said.

**Trivial row**

Suhas, who was assisting his father, a middleman in an RTO office, had a fight with the accused earlier over a trivial issue. Enraged by this, the accused decided to take revenge and abducted and killed him before fleeing the spot.

When Suhas did not return home, his father filed a missing complaint with the Bommanahalli police. The police verified the CCTV footage from in and around the area to track down the accused.

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STORES E-PROCUREMENT
Tender Notice No. S/02/2022-23, dtd.:11-05-2022. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work. SL No.: 1. Tender No.: 40/22/0048A/OT/02/2022-23. Brief Description : Low maintenance Lead Acid Battery 290Ah, 24V (3 Mono Blocks each comprising of 4 cell (8 Volts) in dry and unchanged condition complete with all accessories as inter-cell and end-cell connector etc. as per RDSO's Specification No. ELPS/SPEC/TL/0001/98, Rev.0 for Diesel Engine Stater. Closing/Opening Date: 17-05-2022. SL No.: 2. Tender No.: KT/215156D/OT/03/2022-23. Brief Description : Supply, installation and commissioning of SMPS based IPS confirming to RDSO's specification No. RDSO/SPN/185/2012 (Version 3.0). Closing/Opening Date: 03-06-2022. SL No.: 3. Tender No.: 37/22/0563/OT/04/2022-23. Brief Description : Modified Elastomeric Pad complete as per Deg No. RDSO's Drg. No.-WD-95005-S-1, Alt.-7. Specn: RDSO's Specn No. WD-20-MISC-95 (Rev-3) with amendement slip No. 06 of September 2016 & BIS Spec. IS. 2062/2011, Gr. E 250 Quality-A. Closing/Opening Date: 06-06-2022. NOTE :- For details please visit in website www.ireps.gov.in
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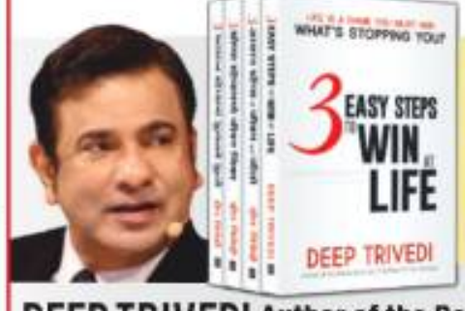

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# State Govt. to take Ordinance route on anti-conversion Bill

## This comes ahead of several impending elections

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Ahead of the impending elections to various local bodies, including zilla panchayat and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike council, the State Cabinet on Thursday decided to take the Ordinance route to get clearance for the Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Bill, 2021.

The Bill, which was adopted by the Karnataka Legislative Assembly in its special session in Belagavi in December 2021, is yet to be introduced in the Legislative Council, where the ruling BJP lacks majority.

J.C. Madhuswamy

Announcing the decision to promulgate an Ordinance, Law Minister J.C. Madhuswamy told reporters here that the Ordinance route was chosen as the Council was not in session.

The timing of the decision to promulgate the Ordinance has given raise to speculation that the ruling BJP is keen to use the proposed legislation as part of its core agenda during the crucial elections to zilla and taluk panchayats and the BBMP that accounts for the highest chunk of the Assembly seats. This speculation has arisen as the government could have waited for just about a month when the BJP would have got the majority in the Upper House after the scheduled elections from the State Assembly to elect members to the Council.

The proposed legislation envisages stringent provisions for "forced" or "induced" conversions. It aims at prohibiting conversion by "misrepresentation, force, allurement, fraudulent means, or marriage."

It proposes maximum imprisonment of 10 years for forcible conversion of persons from Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe communities, minors, and women to another religion.

The Opposition parties have taken exception to the Bill and termed it "draconian".

**Archbishop responds**

Responding to the development, the Archbishop of Bengaluru has described it as a move that will "affect the harmonious relationship that we enjoy with members of all the communities in Karnataka".

"With the Ordinance in hand, there is no doubt that the fringe elements and groups will try to create problems for the members of our community as we have seen in the past and the Government is in no control of them," said Archbishop Peter Machado in a statement. He hoped that the Governor would address the concern of the community by not giving his assent.

# Govt. may file appeal before SC seeking three months to hold local body polls

## State is keen to provide reservation to OBCs in local bodies before elections

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Declaring that the Karnataka Government is committed to providing political reservation to OBCs in local bodies while holding elections, Law Minister J.C. Madhuswamy on Thursday said the Government was considering filing an appeal before the Supreme Court seeking two or three months time to hold local body polls.

Briefing reporters after the State Cabinet meeting, he said the issue had been discussed in detail at a meeting convened by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai in which himself, representatives of the Law Department, and the State Advocate-General participated.

Mr. Madhuswamy pointed out that the Supreme Court in its instructions to Madhya Pradesh had said that polls to local bodies should be held without any delay after the expiry of their term. In an obvious reference to its earlier order in which it had stressed the need for studying the political backwardness of OBCs through empirical data before giving reservation to them in local bodies, he said the court had observed that elections to local bodies should be held soon with provisions for reservation to only SC/STs and that there was no need to wait for giving reservation to OBCs.

Elections to the BBMP council are due. • FILE PHOTO

Mr. Madhuswamy said Karnataka was a pioneer in providing reservation to OBCs in local bodies as the system had commenced in 1983. While it is not possible to stop the practice, the State Government had recently appointed a commission headed by a retired Karnataka High Court judge Bhaktavatsala to study the political backwardness of OBCs. The commission, which had earlier been given a three-month deadline to file the report, had now been requested to expedite the process, he said and noted that all these aspects would be brought up before the Supreme Court.

"It is our firm resolve not to go for elections without making provisions for the reservation to OBCs in all local bodies, including the BBMP," he said, adding that the Opposition would be taken into confidence.

Referring to the court's instructions to hold elections in the same format that existed when their term expired, he said, "This would create confusion as we cannot take delimitation of wards into consideration for the BBMP if the polls have to be held for the earlier version of the BBMP limits." Also, it would not be possible to consider 110 villages that have been included into the BBMP if the elections were to be held as per the old format. There are similar issues with panchayats too.

**To amend Act**

Meanwhile, the State Cabinet decided to amend the Karnataka Land Revenue Act to provide one more opportunity to eligible people to apply for regularisation of unauthorised cultivation of government land under Bagair Hukum scheme. Mr. Madhuswamy said this was because many could not apply before the deadline during COVID-19.

The Cabinet also decided to increase the subsidy from 50% to 75% for SC/ST beneficiaries to buy land in industrial areas developed by the KSSIDC.

**For free treatment**

The Cabinet gave administrative approval to grant ₹29 crore for ensuring free treatment to children suffering from haemophilia and ₹15 crore for those suffering from thalassaemia and sickle cell anaemia.

# RS polls: BJP assured of two seats, Cong. one

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

As the Election Commission of India announced polls to four seats of the Rajya Sabha from Karnataka, along with 53 others across the country on June 10, the ruling BJP will not only retain its two seats, but is likely to win the third seat.

The elections have been necessitated as the term of four members will end on June 30. Among those retiring are BJP members Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and K.C. Ramamurthy, and Congress member and former Union Minister Jairam Ramesh. The other seat has been vacant since September 2021 following the death of Congress member and former Union Minister Oscar Fernandes.

Legislative Assembly sources said that as per a fixed formula, each candidate is required to get 45 votes, and 224 members of the Legislative Assembly will be eligible to vote. The ruling BJP and the principal Opposition Congress with their strength in the Assembly can win two and one seats each comfortably.

The BJP has 122 members (including the Speaker and an Independent), the Congress has 70 (including an Independent), and the Janata Dal (Secular) has 32 members. Sources said that it is to be seen how political alignments take place for the fourth Rajya Sabha seat from Karnataka as none of the parties with the current strength has 45 votes for the fourth seat.

Sources said that the BJP is likely to win the fourth seat with the help of the JD (S) if the Congress decides to field its second candidate. "The election can also become unanimous if the Congress and the JD(S) decide against fielding their candidate, paving the way for the BJP to have its third candidate. Independently, the BJP could also be looking at the third seat with its 32 surplus votes and second preferential votes," sources said. "Since it is an open ballot, for a member to exercise second preference to a candidate from another party is difficult."

Meanwhile, JD(S) sources indicated that there could be some kind of an understanding with the BJP and the bargain could be for the BJP's support to get the second seat in the elections being held for seven seats of the Legislative Council to be elected from Legislative Assembly. Currently, two members from the JD(S) are retiring, but the party has the strength to elect one member. "The party will also consider the current political climate before deciding on supporting the BJP," said the source.

Congress sources said that though the daughter of the late Oscar Fernandes has evinced interest to contest, the high command will decide on the seat. "Only if the party decides not to field Mr. Ramesh that the race opens up since the Congress can win only one seat," a leader said. Sources also said that a section in the party also wants a local candidate fielded. He said that the party was unlikely to field its second candidate to force an election.

**A slew of polls**

**To the Legislative Council**

- On June 3: Seven seats to be elected from the Legislative Assembly.
- On June 13: Four seats — Karnataka North-West Graduates constituency, Karnataka South Graduates constituency, Karnataka North-West Teachers constituency, and Karnataka West Teachers constituency.

**To the Rajya Sabha**

- On June 10: Four seats from Karnataka as members, including Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, retire.

## Polls to 4 Council seats on June 13

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Election Commission of India on Thursday announced that elections to four teachers and graduates constituencies of the Karnataka Legislative Council would be held on June 13.

The term of incumbent members representing Karnataka North-West Graduates, Karnataka South Graduates, Karnataka North-West Teachers, and Karnataka West Teachers constituencies will end on July 4.

Legislative Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti, who represents the Karnataka West Teachers constituency from the JD(S), is expected to contest from the BJP.

On Wednesday, the ECI announced that elections to seven seats of the Legislative Council to be elected from the Legislative Assembly would be held on June 3.

# Contractors defer strike

## They vow to continue fight against '40% commission'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Contractors' Association, which had earlier alleged commission in public works going up to 40%, has indefinitely deferred its strike that was earlier scheduled for May 25. It has maintained that it would continue the fight against the "commission problem" in executing public works.

The decision came after logistic issues cropped since about 50,000 contractors across the State were to attend the strike in Bengaluru.

"The State Government has responded to many of our problems. However, the biggest problem is the commission menace that touches 40%. On top of it, we have to pay a GST of 17.5 %. How do you expect quality work? We will shortly announce the date for our strike after the office-bearers' meet," a senior office-bearer of the association said. He estimated that the pending bills for public works across the State was about ₹25,000 crore with several bills older than three years.

The strike call had embarrassed the Government that is facing the allegation of corruption and had been followed by a meeting of Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and the association office-bearers on April 25. Following the meeting, the State Government took a slew of measures to meet the contractors' demand.

While last week the Government appointed the pretender scrutiny committee, on Wednesday it capped the tender premium at 5% and clearance of bills based on the seniority. The office-bearer said that the single cover system in which no condition will be laid down has been enhanced up to ₹3 crore and seniority in payment has been announced transparency in the tender has been assured.

"The bigger problem is the commission. We will continue to fight and create public opinion. There is no question of withdrawing the strike. We also have to be wary during the election year," he said.

# Ramya continues to field trolls on Twitter

## She has appealed to K.C. Venugopal to clarify the situation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The controversial statement by KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar on the alleged meeting of KPCC Campaign Committee chairman M.B. Patil and Higher Education Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan continued to take more twists with the former Congress MP and actor Ramya's response.

While on Wednesday Ms. Ramya said she was being trolled at the behest of the "office" (obliquely referring to Mr. Shivakumar) for backing Mr. Patil, on Thursday she accused that stories were planted in the media that she had duped the party of ₹8 crore. Ms. Ramya had earlier defended the meeting between the Minister and Mr. Patil, followed by trolling.

The ongoing Twitter war among Congress leaders has further exposed rival camps within the party.

Ms. Ramya took to Twitter to appeal to K.C. Venugopal, AICC general secretary in charge of Karnataka. "Humble request to K.C. Venugopal to please clarify with the media about this

Ramya

whenever you are in Karnataka next. The least you can do for me Venugopalji so I do not have to live with this abuse and trolling for the rest of my life," she said.

Replying to another tweet that said she was inducted by Mr. Shivakumar to the party in 2010, the former MP said, "If there is anyone who has given me opportunities and stood by me, it is Rahul Gandhi. Anyone else claiming to have given me opportunities has only backstabbed and tried to suppress me. Everything you see on TV is a farce to conceal their devious mind."

**'We need both'**

When reporters sought the response of Mr. Shivakumar here on Thursday to the ongoing drama, he said he was not aware of it. "Mr. Patil is a senior leader in the party and Ms. Ramya is a former parliamentarian. We need both. I do not know where there has been a miscommunication. I was responding to a question by the media on the meeting of two leaders. If somebody is hurt by this development, we will discuss in party forum and not publicly," he said.

# Kharif workshop from today

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Department of Agriculture is organising a two-day State-level kharif workshop from Friday. Agricultural programmes and departmental guidelines for 2022-23 kharif season will be discussed in the workshop, according to a release. It will be held at Dr. Babu Rajendra Prasad International Convention Hall, University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK campus.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is hereby informed to the public that my client intend to purchase the property more fully described in the schedule hereunder from its lawful owner SRI.KRISHNA MOHAN, S/O RAGHURAM Residing at No.39, Maruthi Layout, M.S.Palya, Vidyaranyapura Post, BENGALURU-560097 and if any person(s) or body of persons having any objections or claims, may send their objections with all supportive documents to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of this publication failing which my client would proceed to purchase the Schedule Property as if there is no claim or objections.

**SCHEDULE**

All that piece and parcel of the residential vacant site bearing No.75, Assessment No.2, Doddabettahally Village Panchayat Khatah No.526/75 new BBMP Katha No.418/526/75, formed in Sy.No.2, Doddabettahally Village, Yalahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North(Adl) Taluk, Presently comes under BBMP Limits, measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet in all measuring 1200 Square Feet, and bounded by:

East : 30 ft wide Road,
West : Site No.79,
North : Site No.78,
South : Site No.74.

N. Adinarayan Reddy, Advocate
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1st stage, 2nd Phase, Gokula, Mathikere,
Bengaluru - 560054.
Phone: 080-40921724 / 9845706889
Place: Bengaluru Date: 13-05-2022

**OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE**

DEATH

OBITUARY



24 Dec 1941 - 12 May 2022

**Mrs. Indhira Krishnammachari**

Wife of (Late) CR Krishnammachari
Attained Acharyan Thiruvadi
on 12th May 2022
No.378, First South Main Road,
Kapaleeswarar Nagar,
Neelangarai, Chennai - 600115.

*Deeply mourned by*

Krishnammachari Srikkanth
Kris Srinaath
Srekala Bharath
their families and a host of
relatives and friends

+91 9884042284

DEATH

OBITUARY

31.3.1928 - 11.5.2022

**Dr S. Varadarajan**
Eminent Scientist & Technologist

A memorial meeting to celebrate his life will be held at C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium, India International Centre, New Delhi, on 15.5.22 - 10.30 am.
- The Varadarajan Family
Bangalore Ph : 99005 41497

REMEMBRANCE

REMEMBRANCE



**P.V. Thyagarajan**

You left us on this day 12th May two years ago.
You are near us even if we don't see you.
You are guiding us even if we don't talk to you.
You are in our heart,
thoughts, mind, life, Always...

*Fondly Remembered by*
**Wife:** Indira Thyagarajan
**Daughters:** Jasani, Geetha
**Sons-in-law:** Kumar, Prakash
**Son:** Karthik
**Daughter-in-law:** Samaya
& Grandchildren

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**PERSONAL**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

I, **Ramesh** S/o. Bakkappa R/o. House No. 349-2-62, Yakatpur, Bidar, Karnataka - 585403 do hereby affirm and declare that I have embraced Buddhism and renounced Hinduism with effect from 14th October, 2019.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **Anuja** Ojha R/o A 1207, Mantri Web City, Hennur Main Road, Bengaluru, 560077 have changed my minor daughter's name from Katyayani Ojha to Katyayni Ojha for all purposes.

**PERSONAL**

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **Ayushi** Subhankar Dutta alias Ayushi Dutta D/o Subhankar Dutta, R/o: Flat No. B 304, Prama Heights Hennur Main Road, Bengaluru-560043, changed my name to Aiden Dutta for all purposes.

I, **H.** SRIRAMA Murthy, S/o H Bhima Sankara Rao residing at HU002, Gopalan Habitat Splendor, ITPL road, Bangalore-37, have changed my name to Sriram Murthy Hemadribhotla, Vide affidavit dated 09/05/2022 before Notary S.I. Balaguru, Bangalore-84

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TIMING: 11:00 AM Onwards

| DATE | FACULTIES |
|---|---|
| 16th May 2022 | Sahil Saini (Ethics & Current Affairs) |
| 17th May 2022 | Aman Soni (Indian Economy) |
| 18th May 2022 | Dr. Ish Gupta (Geography & Environment) |
| | Satya Prakash (Answer Writing) |

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# JNCASR signs IP transfer pact on molecule that can be drug candidate for dementia

## The other agreement is related to a robust, mobile group oxygen concentrator

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

IP transfer agreements with industries, one on a molecule that could be a potential drug candidate for dementia, and the other related to a robust, mobile group oxygen concentrator that can be used in remote settings and deployed in emergencies, were signed by the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) with industries.

An autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology, JNCASR signed the agreements to transfer the two technologies from its research initiatives to industries on the eve of 'Technology Day 2022'.

According to a release, T Govindaraju, a scientist at the JNCASR, and his team have developed the molecule that could be a potential drug candidate to halt or cure the leading cause of dementia in 70 to 80% cases worldwide. This research work was patented and published in the journal Advanced Therapeutics and patented by the JNCASR. The research aimed to design and synthesise molecules that can reduce the toxicity of amyloid peptide – that accumulates in the central nervous system, it said.

According to the JNCASR, as per studies, Alzheimer's will soon be one of the top diseases in the country, and currently available treatments provide only temporary relief, and there are no approved drugs that directly act on the mechanisms of the disease. This molecule addresses the unmet need to develop drug candidates to halt or cure the disease, it said. Hamsa Biopharma India Pvt. Ltd., a company based in Delhi, indicated its interest to further develop the drug based on a licence agreement.

Another research group at the JNCASR, led by S.V. Diwakar, has designed a robust, mobile group oxygen concentrator that can be used in rural settings and also rapidly deployed in emergencies in any location. Named 'Oxy-Jani', the multi-group initiative of Dr . Diwakar, Meher Prakash, and Santosh Ansumali from the JNCASR, and collaborators, Arvind Rajendran from the University of Alberta and Arun Kumar from Eiwave Digitech executed it with the help of Ritwik Das, an MS student.

# PSI exam scam: CID detains Dy. SP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Hours after the arrest of staff members of the recruitment division, the CID officials on Thursday detained Dy. SP Shantha Kumar after the investigations proved his alleged role in the scam.

### Links with kingpin

Shantha Kumar, who was in charge of over 20 exam centres and was supervising the allotment of centres, security for the strong rooms and also issuing hall tickets, allegedly had links with the kingpins in tampering with the OMR sheets belonging to the candidates who paid bribe to get selected.

The police earlier questioned Shantha Kumar and recorded his statement for further investigations. However, after the arrest of the four staff of the recruitment division and their subsequent questioning, Shantha Kumar's role was clear, following which he was summoned again and detained on Thursday.

Shantha Kumar, who joined the City Armed Reserve force as a constable, cleared the PSI exam and was appointed as Probationary PSI in Tumakuru in 2006.

Having sound technical knowledge, he was transferred to the recruitment division in 2008 and serving the department since then . He was promoted as Dy. SP two years ago and given charge to take up major tasks of recruitment.

# Peenya industrial hub gets ₹100 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Ahead of the impending elections to the BBMP, the State Cabinet on Thursday announced a slew of financial allocations for various projects in Bengaluru that included providing ₹100 crore to upgrade infrastructure in Peenya industrial hub.

Briefing reporters after the Cabinet meeting, Law Minister J.C. Madhuswamy said the the Cabinet wanted to develop the Peenya industrial hub which gives jobs to a sizeable number of people.

### Signal-free corridor

The Cabinet also decided to provide ₹105 crore for developing a signal-free corridor from HAL airport to Oak Farm junction through Kundalahalli. It also cleared a proposal to build a twin tower in NH compound near Anand Rao Circle through the PPP model. This is in addition to clearing a proposal for building a commercial complex at a cost of ₹150 crore in Valageri Halli of Kengeri.

The State Cabinet decided to hand over the under-construction Kalyana Mantapa of the Muzrai Department on the premises of Karanji Anjaneya Temple of Basavanagudi to Sringeri Sharada Peeta. The Sharada Peeta would complete the construction of Kalyana Mantapa and share the rental profit with the Government on a 50:50 ratio, the Minister said.

## WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

**Forecast for Friday:** Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Kerala and Mahe. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over east Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Gangetic West Bengal, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, coastal Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

| CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN |
|---|---|---|---|
| Agartala | 48 | 34.2 | 24.3 |
| Ahmedabad | – | 45.4 | 29.6 |
| Aizawl | 10 | 24.5 | 20.9 |
| Allahabad | – | 41.4 | 28.8 |
| Bengaluru | 5.3 | 23.0 | 19.5 |
| Bhopal | – | 43.9 | 27.0 |
| Bhubaneswar | – | 34.4 | 24.8 |
| Chandigarh | – | 40.6 | 29.6 |
| Chennai | 4 | 34.0 | 27.6 |
| Coimbatore | – | 30.4 | 22.1 |
| Dehradun | – | 35.2 | 24.1 |
| Gangtok | – | 22.0 | 14.6 |
| Goa | 4 | 32.0 | 26.8 |
| Guwahati | 15 | 34.0 | 25.1 |
| Hubballi | – | 29.0 | 23.0 |
| Hyderabad | 0.3 | 33.4 | 26.3 |
| Imphal | 41 | 24.2 | 20.1 |
| Jaipur | – | 44.4 | 31.4 |
| Kochi | 20 | 29.6 | 24.4 |
| Kohima | 33 | 21.0 | 12.4 |
| Kolkata | 7 | 33.6 | 27.4 |

| CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN |
|---|---|---|---|
| Kozhikode | 3 | 30.2 | 24.6 |
| Kurnool | 13 | 32.9 | 24.4 |
| Lucknow | – | 40.3 | 28.5 |
| Madurai | – | 39.2 | 26.1 |
| Mangaluru | 28.1 | 27.6 | 23.3 |
| Mumbai | – | 34.5 | 28.2 |
| Mysuru | 12 | 30.0 | 21.4 |
| New Delhi | – | 42.5 | 29.5 |
| Patna | 16 | 35.6 | 24.2 |
| Port Blair | – | 31.0 | 26.2 |
| Puducherry | – | 33.6 | 26.0 |
| Pune | – | 35.1 | 25.7 |
| Raipur | – | 40.7 | 28.6 |
| Ranchi | – | 35.2 | 24.4 |
| Shillong | 60 | 22.7 | 16.3 |
| Shimla | – | 29.3 | 21.5 |
| Srinagar | – | 28.8 | 14.2 |
| Thiruvananthapuram | 13 | 32.6 | 23.0 |
| Tiruchi | – | 34.6 | 27.5 |
| Vijayawada | 1 | 34.2 | 25.8 |
| Visakhapatnam | 1 | 33.5 | 27.8 |

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

**Pollutants in the air you are breathing** — **Yesterday**

| CITIES | $SO_2$ | $NO_2$ | CO | PM2.5 | PM10 | CODE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | 6 | – | 69 | 159 | 133 | Moderate |
| Bengaluru | 5 | 13 | 35 | 75 | 91 | Good |
| Chennai | 5 | 40 | 71 | 45 | 66 | Good |
| Delhi | 12 | 34 | 41 | 241 | 167 | Poor |
| Hyderabad | 5 | 21 | 47 | 70 | 83 | Good |
| Kolkata | 16 | 14 | 24 | 65 | 94 | Good |
| Lucknow | 6 | 88 | 62 | 172 | 153 | Moderate |
| Mumbai | 6 | 3 | 23 | 172 | 252 | Poor |
| Pune | 99 | 139 | 113 | 177 | 104 | Moderate |
| Visakhapatnam | 18 | 13 | 13 | 51 | 86 | Good |

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 254 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 16

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

**$SO_2$:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

**$NO_2$:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

**PM2.5 & PM10:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease


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Ph. No. : 0172-2880106

Government of Karnataka
**Revenue Department**
**Atalji Janasnehi Directorate,** Revenue Survey Office Building, K. R. Circle, Bangalore – 560 001

No: AJSD/TENDER/ADM-07/2022-23 Dated: 13.05.2022

**e-TENDER NOTIFICATION**

Tenders are invited from reputed firms for **supplying of Epson Ink Bottles for Atalji Janasnehi Kendra's of Bangalore & Mysore Divisions.**

The tender documents and related information can be obtained from e-Procurement portal – **https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from **13.05.2022 to 08.06.2022.**

Sd/-
Director,
Atalji Janasnehi Directorate

DIPR/CP/483/Zonkar/2022-23

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**City Municipal Council, Chintamani**
**Chikkaballapur (District)**

No.: CMC/HS/CR/154/2021-22 Date: 30.04.2022

**Invitation for rate quotations**

City Municipal Council, Chintamani, intends to carry out bio mining and bio remediation of legacy waste accumulated within the MSW site, hence the tender is from eligible bidders to undertake the work a follows:
(1) **Site location:** Near Kanishettyhalli Cross, Chelur Road, Chintamani Taluk. (2) Approximate quantity of legacy waste for bio remediation: **Around 7600 tonnes in phase I.** **(3) Details of work/services:** Processing of Legacy Waste by using Bio-Remediation/Mining Technology with providing Men, Machineries, Processing, Closure and Beautification of Legacy waste present in SWM Site. (4) Estimated Cost: **Rs.50,00,000/-.** (5) EMD: **Rs.1,00,000/-.** (6) Last date of submission of tenders: **16.05.2022.** (7) Opening of technical bid: **18.05.2022.**

Sd/- Commissioner,
City Municipal Council, Chintamani.
ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ/ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ/ಜಾ.ಸಂ 69 ವಾ.ಸಾ/2022-23

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
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**BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE**
Office of the Executive Engineer, Chamarajpet Division, BBMP Anganawadi Centre, 2nd Main, T.R. Mill Road, Bengaluru - 560018.

No: EE/CMP/TEND/E-Proc/03/2022-23 Date: 11.05.2022

**INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)**
(Two Cover System)
(Through e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, (Chamarajpet), BBMP, Bangalore invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the works detailed in the table below.

| Sl. No. | Name of the Work | Approximate Value of works (Rs. in Lakhs) | EMD (in Rs.) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Construction of Drains and Footpath CC Roads to JJR Nagar North and Surrounding Area in **Ward No. 137,** Rayapuram. | 99.00 | 1,98,000/- |
| 2 | Providing fencing Ornamental Grill Behind BBMP Referral Hospital in **Ward No. 137.** | 80.00 | 1,60,000/- |
| 3 | Providing fencing Ornamental Grill Behind BBMP Maternity Hospital in **Ward No. 137.** | 80.00 | 1,60,000/- |
| | **Period of Completion:** 90 Days | | |

**Calendar of Event: (1)** Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of Govt. of Karnataka from: **16.05.2022. (2)** Pre-bid meeting on **23.05.2022** at **4.00 p.m. (3)** Late Date & Time for receipt of Tenders: **27.05.2022** upto **3.00 p.m. (4)** Opening of Technical bid Document for Two Cover **30.05.2022** at **4.15 p.m. (5)** Opening of Financial bid Document **01.06.2022** at **4.15 p.m.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or from website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

**Sd/-, Executive Engineer, Chamarajpet Division, BBMP**

COVID-19 - DON'T SPREAD RUMOURS. ACT RESPONSIBLY. AVOID INFECTION-NOT THE INFECTED.
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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

My client **Sri. CHAITANYA KUMAR SUDDAPALLI,** aged about 46 years, S/o. ArogyamSuddapalli, R/at. C/o. Mahaveer Zephyr Apartment, Fat No. 109, Block-A, Kodichikkanahalli, NearVakil Marina Layout, Bommanahalli, Bangalore 560076, is intending to purchase the Schedule property from its owners SYED BASHA SINCE DEAD BY HIS LR's (1) Smt. FATHIMA BEE, (2) SYED IMTIYAZ AHMED (3) S. ALTAF HUSSAIN, (4) MUMTAZ PARVEEN, (5) SYED NOORUL HASAN ,Sl. No. 1 is wife and Sl. No. 2 to 5 are the Children of Late. Syed Basha, all are R/at. No. House No. 74, Gold Smith Street, Ballari-583101, for Valuable Consideration. Any persons having any rights/claims/ objections/Minor Claims, in respect of the schedule property are hereby requested to send their objections to the above mentioned address within 7 days, from the receipt of the this public notice. If no objections are forth coming within 7 days, my client shall get executed sale deed in his favour.

**SCHEDULE**

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing House built in Site No. 58,old House List Khata No. 262/6, BBMP Khata No. 4395, Situated at HoramavuAgara Village, "ROCHE ENCLAVE" K.R. Puram Old Bangalore South Taluk, Now Bangalore East Taluk, Presently comes under the limits of BBMP Bangalore, Measuring East to West 50 feet and North to South 30 feet meters, totally measuring 1500 Sq feet. Bounded on East : House Site No. 65, West: 3rd Street Road, North: House Site No. 59, South: House Site No. 57.

From **Mr. Manjunath Reddy,** B.A., LLB.,
**Smt. T.Shobha Reddy,** B.Sc., LLB.,
No. 8/7, Mega City BEML Layout Road, Maragondanahalli Main Road, K.R. Puram Post, Bangalore-36. Ph:- 9538320804, 9845520830, 7353233778.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the General Public that my clients, **Smt. Gottipati Rajyalakshmi,** W/o Sri. Nageswara Rao and **Smt. Vijaya Bharathi Marupudi,** W/o Sri. Vasu Balm Marupudi intending to jointly purchase the Schedule Property from its owner, **Sri. Hosad Mahabaleshwar also known as H. Mahabaleshwar,** S/o Sri. Madayyanamane Nagayya Shenager also known as Nagappa, Residing at No.01, First Main Road, V.R.Puram, Palace Guttahalli, Bangalore -560 003.

If any person or persons, Firm, Institutions, State or Central Government Authorities or local bodies any Claims. Charges, demands, Right, title or interest. Past or pending litigations in or upon the Schedule Property or part thereof, the same may brought to the notice of the undersigned in writing in details with all supporting Documents within **15 days** from the date of publication of this Notice failing which my clients will proceed with completion of Sale transaction in respect of the Schedule Property. Any claim or objections received after expiry of the period stipulated above shall neither be entertained nor be binding on my clients holding that all claims or objections whatsoever are waived.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property bearing House Site No.102, House List Khatha No.16/2, New No.242/102 situated at Geddalahalli, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore measuring East to West 52 feet and North to South 30 feet in all measuring 1,560.00 square feet together with A.C. Sheet house standing thereon and bounded on the East by 25 feet Road; West by Private Property; North by property No.101 and South by property No.103.

**K.T. ANAND,** Advocate
No.07, Charles Campbell Road,
Cox Town Extension, Bangalore-560 005.
Mobile: 98451 76564

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

My clients, desirous to purchase the schedule lands **Sri.M.Srinivas,** aged about 50 years, S/o. Sri.Muniyappa, residing at No.22, Bhauddur Main Road, Anekal Town, Bengaluru Urban District, with respect to the lands bearing Sy.Nos.10 (10/P67), measuring 02 Acres and Sy.No.10 (10/P98), measuring 01 Acre 15 Guntas, situated at Sonninayakanapura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, which are described as the Schedule Properties.

Notice is hereby given to the General public that, any person/s other than the owners mentioned herein, asserting any right, title, charge, lien, interest or claims or whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned, their objections if any, to the proposed transaction in connection with the Schedule Properties. The said objection/s must be in writing together with documentary proof of such claim/s, so as to reach us at the address given below within a period of **07 (Seven) days** from the date of publication of this notice. If no such objection/s are received within the said **07 (Seven) days,** it shall be deemed that, none else other than the owners and the Developers mentioned herein has/have any right, title, interest or claim of whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties and my client would be at liberty to proceed with the proposed transaction in connection with the Schedule Properties.

**SCHEDULE**

| Sl.No. | Sy.Nos. | Extent | Boundaries |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 10 (10/P67) | 02 Acres | **East by:** Lands bearing Sy.No.63/4 belonging to Sri.Venkataswamy & Land bearing Sy.No.63/3, belonging to Sri.Vijay & Others; **West by:** Land bearing Sy.No.10 (Old Sy.No.10/P98) i.e., item no.2; **North by:** Lands bearing Sy.Nos.49, belonging to the Purchaser & Sy.No.10/P69, belonging to Muniyappa; **South by:** Land bearing Sy.No.63/3, belonging to Sri.Vijay & Others. |
| 2. | 10 (10/P98) | 01 Acre 15 Guntas | **East by:** Land bearing Sy.No.10 (Old Sy.No.10/P67) i.e.; item no.1; **West by:** Land bearing Sy.No.62/1, belonging to Sri.Venkatappa, S/o Appanna; **North by:** Lands bearing Sy.No.75, belonging to Smt.Venkatamma & Sy.No.10/P121, Belonging to Sri.Yellappa; **South by:** Land bearing Sy.No.10/P106, belonging to Sri.Yellappa. |

**K.T. Nanjunda Gowda,** Advocate.
No.26/2, Sri Krishna Building, Avenue Road, Bengaluru-560 002.
Place: Bengaluru Date: 10-05-2022

**KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. EE(E)/TL&SS/AE(T)/CHI/2022-23/124 Date: 10.05.2022

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**

KPTCL invites following office tender pertaining to Transmission Lines and S/s Division, Chintamani.

**1)** Supply of Three number of 11KV CT's of ratio 400-200/1-1A to 66/11KV MUSS Talagawara in TL&SS Division Chintamani. **2)** Supply of maintenance materials at 66/11KV Sub-Station Talagawara in TL&SSD Chintamani. **3)** Supply of Indication Lamps to Annunciator panel, LTAC, Distribution panel, 11KV feeder control & relay panels at 66/11KV MUSS Pathapalya in TL&SSD Gowribidanur. **4)** Refilling of various types of fire extinguishers at 66/11KV MUSS Julpalya in TL&SSD Gowribidanur. **5)** Supply of maintenance materials at 66/11KV Sub-Station Yenigadale in TL&SSD Chintamani. **6)** Supply of EFR, MTR & Trip circuit supervision relay to 66/11KV MUSS Iragampalli in TL&SSD Chintamani. **7)** Supply of stationaries to 220KV RS Chintamani Nodal centre-2 in TL&SSD Chintamani. **8)** Supply of 04 No's of reputed make cooling fans for 20MVA BBL make Power Transformer at 66/11KV MUSS Shidlagatta in TL&SSD Chintamani. **9)** Supply & fixing of Annunciation facia, Digital frequency meter & multi function digital meters for control panels at 220KV R/s Chintamani in TL&SSD Chintamani. **10)** Supply of 01 number of 3 phase 0.2S class 11KV Bank-2 PT of ratio 11KV/110V for 66/11KV MUSS Yenigadale in TL&SSD Chintamani. **11)** Supply of numerical non directional EFR, numerical directional OCR-relay with high set element & master trip relay 1 No to 66/11KV MUSS G.Kodihalli in TL&SSD Chintamani. **12)** Supply of Trip supervision relay for F9 feeder at 66/11KV MUSS Sadali in TL&SSD Chintamani. **13)** Refilling of various types of fire extinguishers at 66/11KV MUSS Somanathapura in TL&SSD Gowribidanur. **14)** Refilling of various types of fire extinguishers at 66/11KV MUSS Thimmampalli in TL&SSD Gowribidanur. **15)** Refilling of various types of fire extinguishers at 66/11KV MUSS Chelur in TL&SSD Gowribidanur. **16)** Refilling of various types of fire extinguishers at 66/11KV MUSS Pathapalya in TL&SSD Gowribidanur. **17)** Supply of stationaries to Nodal Centre-2 in TL&SSD Gowribidanur. **18)** Supply of numerical electrical OCR relay 01 number & master trip relay 01 number to 66/11KV MUSS Nandhiganahalli in TL&SSD Chintamani.

Enquiry details may be obtained from the office of the undersigned from **16.05.2022 at 10:00Hrs. onwards.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- **Executive Engineer (El), TL&SS Division, KPTCL, Chintamani - 563 125.**

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## Importance of consent

The institution of marriage cannot be allowed to sanction force and violence

A split verdict in the Delhi High Court on the question of criminalising marital rape has reignited the controversy over legal protection for disregard of consent for sex within marriage. On Wednesday, while Justice Rajiv Shakdher, who headed the Bench, struck down as unconstitutional the exception to Section 375 of the IPC, which says that intercourse by a man with his wife aged 18 or above is not rape even if it is without her consent, Justice C. Hari Shankar rejected the plea to criminalise marital rape pointing out that any change in the law has to be carried out by the legislature since it requires consideration of social, cultural and legal aspects. With the judges differing on key points such as difficulty in getting evidence, the importance of consent, whether the state's concerns about safeguarding the institution of marriage were valid, and if other laws against sexual violence protected married women, the issues involved may have to be ultimately adjudicated with the help of a third judge or a larger Bench of the High Court or the Supreme Court. The Union government has been opposing the removal of the marital rape exception. In 2016, it had rejected the concept of marital rape, saying it "cannot be applied to the Indian context" due to various reasons, not least because of the "mindset of society to treat marriage as a sacrament". However, in the final hearing, the Union government did not take a stand on the issue.

Justice Shakdher's opinion goes to the heart of the matter, inasmuch as it treats the absence of consent as the core ingredient of rape. He says what is defined as rape in law should be labelled as such, irrespective of whether it occurs within or outside marriage. He finds that the marital exception violates equality before law, as well as deprives women of the right to trigger a prosecution for non-consensual sex. Besides, it also discriminates among women based on their marital status and robs them of sexual agency and autonomy. In contrast, Justice Hari Shankar's opinion, somewhat disconcertingly, de-emphasises the element of consent and lays much store by the importance of preserving the institution of marriage to such an extent that he holds that any legislation that keeps rape out of a marital relationship "is immune to interference". If marriage is regarded as a partnership between equals, an exception in a 162-year-old law should have had no place. While there are other laws governing civil relationships that legitimise conjugal expectations, these cannot be seen as giving a free pass for violence within marriage, which is essentially what sex without consent is. Whether the legislative route is more appropriate in making marital rape a criminal offence is a matter of detail. What is important is that sexual violence has no place in society, and the institution of marriage is no exception.

## Rise of the son

Marcos Jr. should disown his father's legacy if he is serious about political accountability

The landslide victory of Ferdinand Marcos Jr., the son of former dictator Ferdinand Marcos, in Monday's presidential election, is a testimony to the structural change the Philippines's politics has undergone in over three decades. The regime of the senior Marcos – he was President twice before declaring martial law – was known for thuggery and corruption, even accused of stealing billions from the state coffers. It took the years-long "People Power Revolution", which was triggered by the assassination of opposition leader Benigno Aquino Jr. in 1983, to overthrow the dictatorship in 1986. Thirty-six years later, Mr. Marcos Jr., who has never disowned the abuses of his father's regime, got 30.5 million votes out of 67 million votes polled (unofficial results), compared to 14.5 million votes secured by Vice-President Maria Leonor Robredo, his closest rival. However ironic it might seem, his victory is not surprising. The Marcos family, which returned to the country in 1991 after six years in exile, had immediately started to regain its lost glory. The dictator's wife, Imelda, contested in the 1992 presidential election and lost. Mr. Marcos Jr. has been active in politics since the late 1990s. Now, with his thumping victory in one of the most consequential elections in the post-dictatorship era, the once-disgraced family is set to determine the Southeast Asian nation's future once again.

Little is known about Mr. Marcos Jr.'s policy preferences. He skipped presidential debates and refused to give media interviews. Instead, he gave direct addresses to his supporters and his team ran a highly efficient online campaign focusing on repackaging the era of dictatorship as one of prosperity and opportunity. This appeared to have struck a chord with voters. He joined hands too with the outgoing President Rodrigo Duterte, whose daughter, Sara Duterte-Carpio, became his running mate. Six years ago, Mr. Duterte ran a similar campaign. He blamed pro-democracy establishment parties for the poverty and widening inequality. Once in power, he attacked the country's institutions, launched a "war on drugs" in which thousands of Filipinos were killed, and ordered the burial of the senior Marcos's body at a heroes' cemetery. Mr. Marcos Jr.'s refusal to distance himself from his family's political legacy and his joining hands with the Dutertes have triggered concerns of a further erosion of democracy. Given the six years of Mr. Duterte's rule, such fears were not completely baseless. In his first remarks after the election, Mr. Marcos Jr. asked the public to "judge me by my actions and not by my ancestors". If he is serious, the presidency is his opportunity to prove his critics wrong. He can do so by recovering the billions looted during his father's regime, strengthening institutional democracy and restoring accountability among the political class.

# With delimitation over, a look at the slate for J&K

There is every likelihood of the delimitation report only compounding the political issues for the former State

RADHA KUMAR

The Delimitation Commission's redrawn map for Jammu and Kashmir's Assembly election was notified a few days before the Supreme Court of India 's judgment on sedition. As expected, Kashmir's political parties oppose its results. Though they had raised critical queries on the commission's draft during its consultation phase, most of their concerns were not addressed. Instead, the commission's final report speaks glowingly of the enthusiasm and the support members received. Apart from Justice (retired) Ranjana Prakash Desai, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sushil Chandra and J&K State Election Commissioner K.K. Sharma were ex-officio members of the commission.

### There is a chasm

Perhaps the commission members did not read the innumerable news stories detailing criticism of their draft. Or, perhaps, they concluded that erstwhile legislators do not represent public opinion. Either way, the gap between the commission's self-projection in the report, and the views of the Valley's political leaders, is as wide as a chasm.

The commission's establishment was controversial from the start. Initially, the Union Home Ministry had notified five States and/or Union Territories for immediate redrawing of constituencies while the remainder would undergo fresh delimitation after 2026. After protests, four of the five States were dropped from the list, leaving only Jammu and Kashmir. Fresh delimitation was necessary for Jammu and Kashmir, the Narendra Modi administration said, since the State had been divided into two Union Territories and elections could only be held under the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019

The decision placed the Valley's regional political parties in an impossible situation. Over 5,000 people, including three former Chief Ministers, had been taken into preventive detention days before the reorganisation act was passed, many of them charged with unlawful activities tantamount to sedition. The State's Assembly had been dissolved a year earlier and it was under President's rule. Four parties were in the Supreme Court of India challenging the act. If they cooperated with the delimitation commission, they would be seen as tacitly watering down their court challenge. If they did not cooperate, they risked their concerns being ignored. Given that non-cooperation might radically shift power balances within and between districts, most of Kashmir's regional parties chose to submit written representations to the commission.

### Gaps in the report

As it turns out, they must be wondering why they bothered. The commission's report appends a long list of people who made representations and/or objections, but it does not summarise the objections nor address them point by point.

The central question of why Jammu has gained six Assembly seats and the Valley only one has been brushed under general remarks on methodology with no explanation of how that methodology was applied. For example, the commission claims to have taken plus 10% of the average population at the patwari or ward level as a measure for redrawing constituencies in flat areas and minus 10% in hilly areas. But that does not answer the question of why Jammu province has more seats relative to its population than the Valley does, with a differential of as much as 20,000 people per seat. Nor does

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it explain why Jammu's Muslim-majority seats now comprise less than a quarter of the province's total seats, though Muslims comprise over a third of the province's population.

What is more, as analysts point out, the majority of the six new constituencies that Jammu has acquired are Hindu-majority. One has a population of just over 50,000 people, but shares the same physical features as a Muslim-majority constituency of close to four times its population.

The commission's recommendations further complicate the issue. They propose that the President nominate Pandit migrants to two Assembly seats – why is there no reference to Pandits who remain in the Valley? – and West Pakistani refugees to another, along the lines of reservation for Anglo-Indians in Parliament. But the reservation for Anglo-Indians lapsed in 2020 since it was not extended by the 126th amendment to the Constitution.

Indeed, the only overarching guideline which the report does describe in some detail is the commission's desire to match the boundaries of Assembly and parliamentary constituencies. Why this is so important is unclear. There is certainly a logic to ensuring that Assembly and parliamentary constituencies match local administrative and police boundaries. But what is the logic of ensuring that no Assembly constituency falls under two parliamentary constituencies? How many local legislators found that a problem?

Most of these questions were addressed to the commission during its consultation phase. Its members, therefore, had the opportunity to answer doubts in their final report. By choosing not to do so they lost a valuable opportunity to display transparency and dispel suspicion of bias. Instead, and breathtakingly, the CEC, Mr. Chandra, commented in his preface that the redrawing will overcome long-standing divisions between Jammu and the Kashmir Valley. How can seeming bias do anything other than exacerbate division?

### Court hearing is next

So, what happens now? Perhaps the Supreme Court will start hearing the challenges to the reorganisation act after the summer recess. If the Court decides the challenges are valid, then the delimitation exercise will be nullified, as Justice Desai remarked when she undertook the task of chair.

In the meantime, with the redrawn constituencies now notified, there is no reason for the Election Commission to delay announcing dates for the long overdue Assembly election in Jammu and Kashmir. However unhappy Valley political parties might be, they will have no choice but to participate. The former State desperately needs an elected leadership after having been under the administration of non-local and inimical bureaucrats for four years.

Whenever it happens, this election will be as polarised as the last election over seven years ago. Indeed, with the redrawn constituencies, it is likely to be even more polarised. In the short term, the risk of violence will be high, unless armed groups yield to the unspoken consensus in the Valley that a smooth election is in their best interest.

The real challenge will come after. If, as anticipated, the election results reflect a sharp divide between Jammu and the Valley, it will be even more difficult to put together a coalition administration with the Bharatiya Janata Party as partner. The breakaway factions from the National Conference and the Peoples Democratic Party might, with the aid of dirty tricks, win enough seats to help the BJP helm a coalition. But they must by this time be well aware that while they will have little influence in a BJP coalition, they might have to shoulder all the blame.

### Focus on freedoms

The only hope for a peace process in Jammu and Kashmir is if there is a clean election, statehood is speedily restored, and the new Assembly determines whether or in which form special status is required. But the cards are already heavily stacked against either, and the delimitation report has further tilted them in favour of further conflict. A wise leader would hold elections for existing constituencies and let the new assembly approve or query the delimitation report. In fact, the commission itself proposed that the report be placed before the legislative assembly, a recommendation that makes sense only if new delimitation comes into force after and not before elections.

Urgent as elections are, attention to fundamental freedoms is even more important. There are over a thousand Kashmiris in prison under charges that the Supreme Court has questioned in relation to sedition. Most of them have been denied bail or asked to furnish punitive sureties. The three Kashmiri students arrested in Uttar Pradesh for celebrating a Pakistani cricket victory had to deposit ₹1 lakh each for bail, whereas Jignesh Mewani paid the far more appropriate sum of ₹1,000 for a similar non-offence. Applying the Supreme Court's interim orders to cases under similarly draconian legislation would be a true confidence-booster for elections.

*Radha Kumar is a writer and policy analyst*

# India needs a credible count of its COVID-19 toll

Setting up a panel of experts will show the Government's commitment to an accurate account of the pandemic's impact

GAUTAM I. MENON

The World Health Organization (WHO) recently released a report that estimated global deaths from COVID-19 across 2020-2021. It suggested that about 14.9 million deaths could be attributed to the novel coronavirus pandemic worldwide during that period, further estimating that about 4.7 million of these deaths were in India alone. For comparison, the official Indian COVID-19 toll for that period is 0.48 million, a number smaller than the WHO number by a factor of about 10.

A number of independent news reports have suggested that there was pressure from the Indian government on WHO to suppress its estimates. Indeed, once the report appeared, it was immediately criticised by a number of prominent Government representatives. A Government press release called the report "statistically unsound and scientifically questionable".

India's rejection of the report makes it the only country to do so, out of the 194 member states of WHO. However, the estimates for India are broadly consistent with estimates from a number of independent groups, all falling in the broad range of 2.2 million to 6 million deaths.

### On 'excess mortality'

At the core of all such estimates, especially in situations where official numbers might not align with reality, is a quantity called "excess mortality". This compares estimates of the actual death toll with the number of deaths expected in the same year but without the mortality caused by the pandemic, an obvious counterfactual. There are thus two estimates here – an estimate of the actual number of deaths, and the "counterfactual" estimate. The difference between these is the number of excess deaths that we should attribute to the pandemic.

For the counterfactual estimate, one should extrapolate from the number of deaths in previous pre-pandemic years, but with additional statistical corrections that represent how the population changes from year to year. Somewhat subtly, one must account for the indirect impacts of the disease as well. These should include the fact that fewer deaths from road accidents occur during periods of a lockdown, for example. Accounting for those who died simply because medical treatment was hard to access in the pandemic period, even if from non-COVID-19 causes, is also important.

For the actual death toll, one must rely on official data, if it is believed to be accurate, or estimate the number by other means, as WHO did for India.

### India's response

The Government's issue with the WHO report involves both these separate estimates. It argues that the model used by WHO to estimate deaths in the counterfactual scenario is flawed. Further, it suggests that the way in which the actual deaths are calculated – from a combination of official reports, numbers from external non-government websites and news reports – is questionable.

The official response from the

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Government is short on specifics. It provides no alternative routes to these estimations, apart from insisting that the official record should be trusted.

In its response to WHO, the Indian government has argued that its own Civil Registration System, or CRS, is of sufficiently high quality that the numbers it provides can be used in place of model estimates. Data from the CRS for 2020 are now available, but were released just two days before WHO released its own report and could not, therefore, be incorporated in its estimates. The CRS numbers point to an increase of 4,70,000 deaths in 2020 over 2019, although these are very unlikely to all be COVID-19 deaths. WHO's estimates for deaths from the pandemic in 2020 yield numbers that are larger by a factor of about two.

The available CRS data do not estimate how many deaths actually took place in India in 2020, but only those that were registered, a number known to have a distinct urban-rural divide. Because the CRS only counts registered deaths, the quality of its numbers can only be understood by comparison to other methods. India's Sample Registration System (SRS) tracks a set of representative households to estimate deaths in a given year. This could have been a useful point of comparison. However, SRS data for 2020 is currently unavailable.

The CRS has been argued to undercount deaths in some of India's most populous States, especially deaths of women and children. Low levels of death registration are believed to occur in the highly populous States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and are likely to have slipped further during the pandemic. Given these, it is possible that the discrepancy between the official and the WHO estimates may simply reflect inadequacies in our mechanisms for counting deaths.

There is universal agreement that the bulk of the deaths from COVID-19 across the span of the pandemic can be associated with the Delta wave, which struck India between February and June of 2021. Even in the WHO calculation, the year 2021 contributes more than 80% to the overall estimate of pandemic mortality. On this, Government representatives have so far been silent. The CRS data for 2021 will only be available next year.

### There is a responsibility

Why is it important to count the dead? One reason is, of course, closure. It is hard to find an Indian who has not experienced a direct COVID-19 death of a family member, or an untimely death as an indirect consequence of an infection. To insist on the sanctity of an official record that potentially undercounts them, without providing an adequate reason for believing that record, would ignore our responsibilities to the dead and to those they left behind.

We could ask whether any possible undercounting of deaths indicates deliberate mismanagement or whether it simply points to the difficulty of maintaining accurate records in a country of India's size and complexity. We could ask how the Indian public health system fared in the defining public health event, so far at least, of this century, in comparison to other countries.

But here is the larger question: How should the Indian government respond to independent, external measures of its performance on any issue where these measures diverge from the official narrative? In recent years, the Indian government has demonstrated some prickliness in such matters. In this particular case, it has been largely bolstered by a relatively unquestioning media that has supported the Government's refusal to acknowledge the potential toll of the pandemic as an act of "patriotic defiance", in the words of the mathematician and COVID-19 modeller, Murad Banaji.

As he says, "It is an absurd version of patriotism that discards data and evidence, and disrespects the millions of families for whom COVID-19 brought tragedy."

It is, however, possible to do a better job. Indian statisticians and modellers are equal to any in the world. The methodology adopted by WHO is transparent and publicly available. The Government could easily set up an independent panel of experts to evaluate and improve WHO's projections.

The numbers that such a panel comes up with might not coincide with the official record. Such an exercise would, however, establish the Government's commitment to an accurate and transparent reckoning of the impact of COVID-19 on India.

*Gautam I. Menon is a Professor of Physics and Biology at Ashoka University, Sonepat. The views expressed are personal*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

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### Put on hold

The verdict of the Supreme Court of India (Page 1, May 12), to keep in abeyance the invoking of the draconian sedition law until the examination of Section 124A dealing with the offence of sedition is complete, is a shot in the arm for civil rights activists and crusaders of personal liberties. The stark reality is that the misuse of the sedition law has seen monstrous proportions, with law enforcement authorities in several States invoking it with missionary zeal to criminalise dissent. It is hoped the obnoxious sedition law will be abrogated once and for all.

M. JEYARAM,
Sholavandan, Tamil Nadu

■ As dissent is an imperative for democracy to prevail, the use of the sedition law to blatantly disregard rights and liberty is a threat to democracy. The ball is now in the Centre's court, and it should not prolong the re-consideration process indefinitely.

KIRAN VADDEMPUDI,
Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

■ The authorities have been misusing the sedition law to harass, intimidate and persecute human rights defenders, activists, journalists, students, film-makers, singers, actors and writers for peacefully exercising their right to freedom of expression. If one goes through the Human Freedom Index report, it is clear that much harm has been done to India's global reputation. This would also be an opportune time for the Government to reconsider other similar laws that impinge on human rights.

S.K. KHOSLA,
Chandigarh

### Shivkumar Sharma

The passing of santoor vidwan Pandit Shivkumar Sharma has cast a pall of gloom over the country. Many have been enchanted by his musical creations. The Padma Vibhushan awardee's son appears to be a chip off the old block and is certain to carry on his father's rich legacy.

C.V. ARAVIND,
Bengaluru

**CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:** A quote in the report on Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi's call for building social protection system for children and pregnant women (May 12, 2022) read: "... $53 *million* annually could ensure social protection for all children ... pregnant women too." The figure should be $53 *billion*.

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# Did the RBI wait too long to raise interest rates?

PARLEY

## It could have started highlighting inflationary worry points in February

*On May 4, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided to raise the benchmark interest rate by 0.4 percentage points to 4.4%. Over the past few months, there has been a growing clamour to raise rates, mixed with anxiety over retail inflation exceeding the central bank's tolerance limit of 6% for three months running. The surprise to the markets was in the timing of RBI's move, via an off-cycle meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). In a discussion moderated by* **K. Bharat Kumar**, *Shubhada Rao and U.R. Bhat discuss whether the RBI delayed the rate hike. Edited excerpts:*

REUTERS

**There will be a sacrifice on output. We believe that another CRR hike is in the offing, maybe as early as in the June policy review.**

SHUBHADA RAO

**Should the RBI have acted on interest rates much earlier instead of waiting till retail inflation breached 6%? After all, its mandate is to target 4% inflation. Only the tolerance limit is plus or minus 2%.**

**Shubhada Rao:** It is important to understand the context in which most central banks have behaved the way they have these past two years. It's been a tightrope walk between growth and inflation. We have been going through an 'abnormal' period that started with the onset of COVID-19, followed by the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Since March 2020, central banks globally did everything they could to support growth. As central bank balance sheets expanded, interest rates dropped with a view to support growth via financial conditions that were made ultra-easy. However, the concomitant side effect of COVID-19 was also the supply shocks across the globe, which started to feed inflationary pressures. Commodity prices began rising, causing overall pressure on input costs. But at the same time, growth had been faltering. So, naturally, policymakers were leaning more towards supporting growth. However, at some point, inflation began to bite.

In the U.S., for instance, the Fed had actually been saying that inflation was transitory, whereas markets believed there was a more structural nature to inflation. Likewise in India, we had begun to see inflation pressures building up, markets had begun to worry more about inflation. There was an expectation in the market that demand conditions would improve from the COVID-19 years, which they did. The Purchasing Managers' Index has begun to show consistent expansion, both for manufacturing and services, in recent times. Services have bounced back even more strongly, given demand recovery. Obviously, rising input costs had begun to now manifest in the pricing power getting back to the manufacturers, and so, a pass-through to consumers was quicker than anticipated. The war in Europe and China's strict lockdowns hit supplies and logistics, and supply chains have become further disrupted. We have had a perfect storm where growth has been subdued, and inflation has been dramatically rising.

Did the RBI wait for too long? Perhaps. February would have been the policy time when the RBI could have articulated its concerns on not just the headline Price Index, but more on the core inflation as the economic monitor, which reflects more of your underlying demand conditions.

What moved the needle was the war. It would have been premature to raise rates last year because we were still grappling with growth troubles. The RBI did have the cushion up to 6% of inflation, [which has been provided] for abnormal conditions such as what we have seen these past two years. As inflation has threatened to remain consistently above 6%, as per mandate, it was imperative that the RBI's focus shift back to reining in inflation. The lower bound of the rate transited from reverse repo to standing deposit facility. So, yes, February perhaps was the time when the commentary could have been more guarded and more [along] sounding off the markets that we need to be vigilant on inflation.

**U.R. Bhat:** From an investment practitioner's viewpoint, economics is not an exact science. So, you can't really have a perfect model, where if inflation goes above 6%, you immediately hike interest rates, because the 2-6% range is just an indicator. Also, one has to consider the RBI's own view on the causes of inflation. It might have waited to see if the war would stop or if oil prices would come down dramatically. So, it can't be seen rushing to raise rates and if something dramatic happens, to lower them soon after. If the practice of monetary policy is as simple as creating a model, an algorithm can do a better job than a central banker. There is a lot of judgment and subjectivity that goes in. This is as good a time as any to raise rates.

But looking at it holistically, I am not sure if it was appropriate for a central bank to call an off-cycle meeting and hike interest rates; I don't think anything would have happened if it had waited before it could take up the issue in the next MPC meeting. There must always be an orderly unwinding of the quantitative easing or normalising of the interest rate cycle, because you have to give enough indications to the market about what is coming. Markets are very good at interpreting data. So, a central bank should always give some indication about what is actually bothering them, what parameters are important for them to take a decision either way, so that the market can actually take a view on this and feed that information to prices. When there is sudden change without notice, the market goes into a tailspin. That is probably what happened last week.

Also, is the interest rate hike actually a great way of controlling inflation? If inflation is largely because of problems with the supply chain, that has to be addressed. Also, the transmission mechanism is probably not all that good; because if you really see bank balance sheets, probably more than 75% of the assets are loans. Quite a lot of these are based on T-bills or external benchmark-related rates. Whether the RBI raises repo rate or not, the market has already decided that an interest rate increase is warranted, because that is how they have been trading. All these notes linked to external benchmarks were already getting repriced. So, interest rates in the market are determined by the market forces, not by fiat.

**If the repo rate action itself has little impact, what else should the RBI be doing to rein in inflation?**

**SR:** It's important too that the repo rate, which is typically a signalling rate, should indicate that underlying risks of inflation are real and are going to be more likely durable. An interest rate hike is a necessary but not sufficient condition. That has to come through managing liquidity. By end-April, we were already sitting on a surplus of ₹6.5 lakh crore. Raising the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) for banks by 50 points will impound ₹87,000 crore starting May 21. We believe that the RBI is not going to stop with just one CRR hike. A combination of available liquidity in the system alongside a benchmark rate sends a more comprehensive signal to the market on forthcoming tighter financial conditions, which will help moderate demand. There will be a sacrifice on output. We believe that another CRR hike is in the offing, maybe as early as in the June policy review. The surplus would come down to about ₹2 lakh crore by the end of FY23.

We are already looking at coal shortages, with an eventual impact on power tariffs; we are likely to see an impact on minimum support prices, which are calculated on the basis of input costs; India needs to watch the crude basket more closely. Food costs are set to harden despite our having adequate food grains, given the global escalation in food prices because of the war.

We, as a research unit, are forecasting inflation in the 6.1-6.3% band, so about 6.2% average inflation for FY23, which is still higher than the revised inflation number of 5.7% that the RBI presented in April. In the June policy, the RBI will likely revise that further up. So, there is going to be a sacrifice on growth very clearly. But between inflation and growth, the RBI would most certainly now lean towards inflation, because it is a very inequitable tax on the less privileged.

**What can the government do to make it easier? Reports say the RBI feels isolated in its battle against inflation.**

**SR:** What the government could do, perhaps to the extent possible, is lower the excise on fuel further, which will help alleviate price pressures from headline fuel costs. Of course, the cost to the exchequer is fairly significant, because even if there is a 5% gap in excise, it has an impact on the government balance sheet to the extent of ₹60,000-70,000 crore. So, it will have to be weighed very carefully. Also, the Centre will have to optimise between revenue expenditure and capital expenditure. I think the Finance Minister did indicate that they are going to maintain the momentum on infrastructure spending. And while we could see some growth getting sacrificed in FY23, the medium term, i.e. over a couple of years beyond FY23, could look better. The government has done exceedingly well through some of its policy initiatives during the COVID-19 years by adding significant thrust to domestic manufacturing in the form of Production-Linked Incentives for about 14-15 sectors more actively. If not in FY23, we will see some of these supply constraints getting addressed starting FY24.

**URB:** Given that easing supply challenges could help cool inflation, the government has got to act. The RBI can only use tools such as CRR, Statutory Liquidity Ratio, repo, etc. But tackling supply side issues is outside its domain. Of course, nobody can really take a call on which way the war will go or whether we will have a repeat of the past with COVID-19. But to the extent possible, where there are issues about transportation, container availability and the like, the government has to do its bit. It also has a duty to ensure that the growth momentum doesn't falter. The government will have to continue to spend till the private sector starts investing.

Having said that, the government too has been trying to foster an environment of growth. The Budget had huge allocations for infra spending. That has a huge multiplier effect on the economy. The export thrust also has started showing up. If you see the export growth and GST collections, we're doing pretty well.

But the big concern is that we now have negative real interest rates for savers. The anaemic growth in bank deposits is probably because of that. With negative real interest rates, savers will shift to the markets, or gold or real estate. I think more than two-thirds of the volumes in the equity market is from retail investors. Further, the rupee is in danger of declining further against the dollar. With the U.S. Fed also increasing rates, we will have to keep up the rate differential to help stem outflow of dollars.

The repo rate hike and such tools are effective only when you have credit growth in the high teens or 20%-plus. But with 9-10%, efficacy in tweaking benchmark rates may not be all that much.

**How do you trigger healthy credit growth?**

**URB:** If we want GDP growth of 7% and if there is 6% inflation, that means 13% nominal GDP growth. This needs to be financed. So, the banking system has to be able to grow its credit book quite dramatically to be able to reach these numbers. Because of the huge demand shock, private sector investments have taken a backseat.

As the economy gradually returns to normal, the private sector will start investing in new capacities. The biggest enabler for new investments to happen is the government's investment in infrastructure. When you have good roads, port capacity, good railway capacity, and good telecommunications, people will start investing and generate demand in phases. These will happen. We have been through such phases very many times in the past. If you look at the GST collections and export numbers, things are not really bad. We are getting there.

**Shubhada Rao**
*is founder, QuantEco Research*

**U.R. Bhat**
*is co-founder and Director of Alphaniti Fintech*

NOTEBOOK

# Backstories at the seafront

## Covering crisis-hit Sri Lanka can reveal many stories, some going back more than half a century

MEERA SRINIVASAN

Covering Sri Lanka's ongoing protests at Galle Face, Colombo's charming seafront, exposes me to a lot about this crucial moment in crisis-hit Sri Lanka – the changing dynamics of the struggle, the varied demands coming out of it, the diverse participants and their shared resolve, and the leadership's stubbornness that is imperilling the country's economic and political future.

It has also revealed how vulnerable power can become in the face of resistance. Months after he was elected to office with a thumping majority, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa designated an empty plot adjacent to the colonial-era Presidential Secretariat as a "demonstration site', to tell the world that he was not intolerant to dissent arriving next door. In just two years, protesters set up tents at the same spot that they call 'Gota go gama' or 'Gota go village' and are refusing to leave unless he quits. The daily demonstrations that have persisted despite thunderstorms and attacks by ruling party supporters have forced at least some, including Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, to resign. But Mr. Gotabaya continues to stay in office, seemingly unfazed by the citizens' fury.

While preoccupied with the many uncertainties and promise of the moment, where youth are seeking a radical departure from the country's "corrupt", "failed" political system, covering the protests also leads me to many backstories, some from over half a century ago.

A massive workers' strike held recently, in support of the protests, brought the country to a standstill. Many likened it to the Ceylonese Hartal of 1953, called by left parties, against the government's welfare cuts. It was the first major act of resistance by the people against the government in Sri Lanka's post-colonial history. The spirit of the demands raised then is not very different from what drives the protests today.

Many Tamils of an older generation vividly recall Colombo's seafront for another reason. It was here that Federal Party members, including its icons and founders S.J.V. Chelvanayakam, E.M.V. Naganathan, and C. Vaniasingham, were on a peaceful Satyagraha in 1956, protesting the Sinhala Only Act, one of the most racist laws to be passed in Sri Lanka. "They were set upon by thugs and rowdies and mercilessly beaten, some even had their clothes torn off, others were kicked and stamped upon, and many were thrown into the [nearby] Beira Lake, while the police looked on from the precincts of the old Parliament," Sri Lankan legal scholar Nirmala Chandrahasan wrote in a 2012 piece.

Seeing young demonstrators in black, wearing 'Gota go home' headbands and passionately chanting slogans for over a month in their hoarse voices, I wonder what this country might have become, had any of the past Sinhalese leaders met the legitimate demands of Tamils in the north, east and hill country. Would Sri Lanka's economy have shaped up differently had the ruling class responded differently to the demands of workers and ordinary people?

During my interviews with young participants, they often reflect on the country's past as they re-imagine its future. They speak about the structural discrimination of Tamils and Muslims, state repression, militarisation and justice for the crimes committed during the civil war and against dissidents. They demand an end to corruption, they want their "stolen money back" and economic justice.

At times, these backstories come up when I least expect them – for instance, during a recent interview with a young man doing three jobs while pursuing a degree. As I struggled to ask questions in my tentative Sinhala, he reassured me saying it was okay. "I wish I could speak to you in English. It is all because of this man," he said with contempt. He was pointing to the towering bronze statue of S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, former Prime Minister and architect of the Sinhala Only Act, overlooking the site.

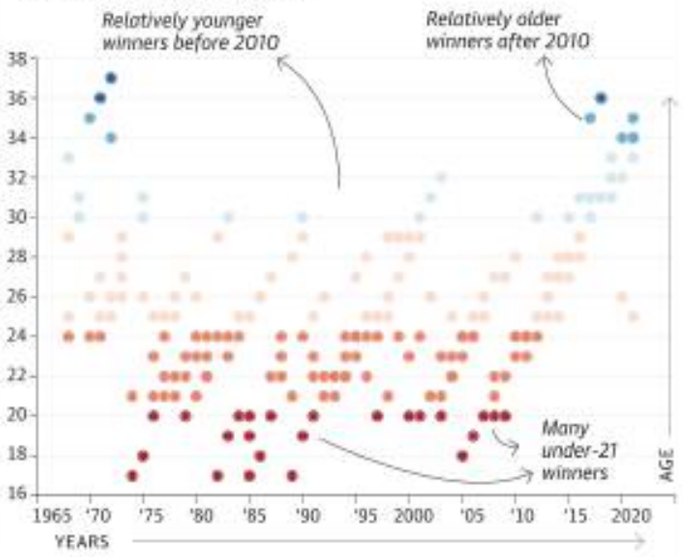
*meera.srinivasan@thehindu.co.in*

DATA POINT

## Teen challenger

Since 2003, Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic have won 80% of all the Grand Slam titles. For more than a decade now, no male tennis player aged under 21 years has won a Grand Slam. On Sunday, teenager Carlos Alcaraz won a clay court tournament by defeating 13-time French Open winner Nadal in the quarters on Friday and current numero uno Djokovic in the semi-finals a day later. He turned 19 last Thursday. With the 2022 edition of Roland Garros less than 10 days away, will the only teenager ranked within the top 40 currently be the game changer in men's tennis?
By Vignesh Radhakrishnan

**1 Ageing winners** | The chart depicts the age of male Grand Slam winners in the Open Era. **The higher the circle, the older the winner.** Due to the dominance of Nadal, Djokovic and Federer in the last decade, the age of Grand Slam champions has been on an increasing trend. The last under-21 champion came in 2009. It was in 2006 that we last saw a teenager win the Slam



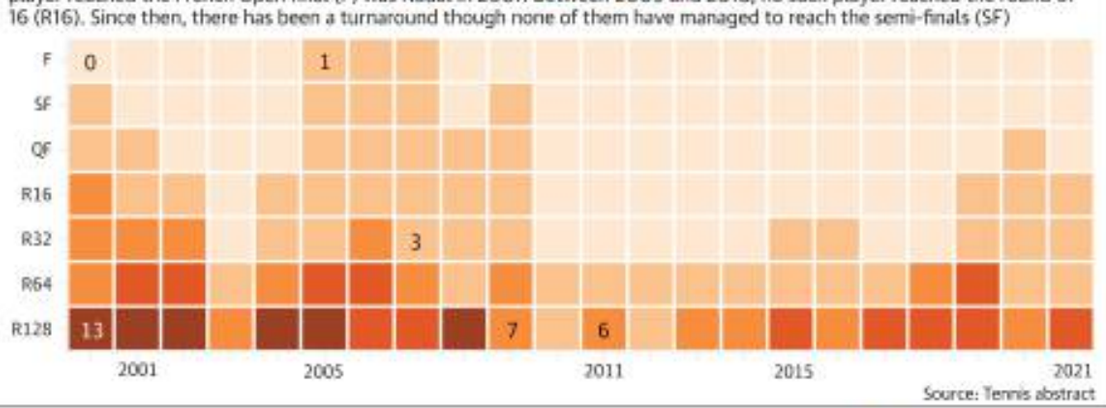

**2 No mean task** | Djokovic has lost 17% of his career matches. The loss % reduces to 15% when only opponents aged under 21 are considered. Nadal has lost 17.2% of his career matches. The loss % reduces to 11.5% when only clay courts are considered. So Alcaraz's wins against these two players were not an everyday affair

| Player | Opponent profile | Matches | Losses | Loss % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Djokovic | All (career) | 1279 | 219 | 17% |
| Djokovic | Under 23 (career) | 222 | 51 | 23% |
| **Djokovic** | **Under 21 (career)** | **82** | **12** | **15%** |
| **Djokovic** | **Under 21 (since 2018)** | **16** | **2** | **12.5%** |
| Nadal | All (career) | 1364 | 234 | 17.2% |
| Nadal | Under 23 (career) | 301 | 56 | 18.6% |
| **Nadal** | **Under 21 (career)** | **127** | **23** | **18.1%** |
| **Nadal** | **Under 21 (clay)** | **61** | **7** | **11.5%** |
| **Nadal** | **Under 21 (since 2018)** | **21** | **2** | **9.5%** |

**3 Breaking into the top 10** | The table lists the age of select players when they first broke into the top 10 ATP tour rankings. Alcaraz broke into the top 10 at an age similar to when Nadal did

| Player | Age when sub-10 rank was reached for the first time |
|---|---|
| Boris Becker | 17 years, 7 months, 16 days |
| Mats Wilander | 17 years, 11 months, 4 days |
| Andre Agassi | 18 years, 1 months, 8 days |
| Rafael Nadal | 18 years, 10 months, 22 days |
| **Carlos Alcaraz** | **18 years, 11 months, 20 days** |
| Pete Sampras | 19 years, 0 months, 29 days |
| Stefan Edberg | 19 years, 0 months, 30 days |
| Novak Djokovic | 19 years, 10 months, 11 days |
| Ivan Lendl | 20 years, 4 months, 0 days |
| Roger Federer | 21 years, 2 months, 6 days |

**4 Under 21 in the French Open** | The chart shows the number of French Open matches involving at least one under-21 player. indicates no such players; 1-3 players; 4-7; 8-11 12-16 players. The last time an under-21 player reached the French Open final (F) was Nadal in 2007. Between 2009 and 2018, no such player reached the round of 16 (R16). Since then, there has been a turnaround though none of them have managed to reach the semi-finals (SF)




Source: Tennis abstract

The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 13, 1972

### Genes grafted to tomato plant cells

Sydney, May 12: Australian scientists have broken the barrier separating animals and plants by transplanting a group of genes from a bacterium into the cells of a tomato plant, it was reported here to-day. Three scientists of the School of Biological Sciences of the Australian National University in Canberra announced to-day that the transplant had given the cells of the tomato plant the genetic memory of an animal. The transplant had given the plant cells entirely new characteristics. The genetic information transmitted will make it possible for plants to take nitrogen directly from the air rather than from fertilizers. Plants might also be induced by such transplants to produce protein of the type needed to help overcome the world's food shortage. The findings of the scientists, Dr. C. Doy, Dr. R. Rolfe, and Mr. P. Gresshof, will be placed before an international meeting of scientists sponsored by the International Union of Biochemistry in Sydney next week.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MAY 13, 1922

### Will architecture survive in India?

Mr. Sitaram was asked by the Chairman (Dr. Thomas, of the Indian Office Library) whether he considered that the Indian temples and tombs of which he had shown us so many fine examples were really beautiful. He replied that to an artistic Indian they certainly were, and I think the vast majority of intelligent Europeans would say the same from their own point of view. Moreover, he claimed that the art of architecture was still living in India, though fast dying and in the south at least it was managing to survive, in spite of the Public Works Department. He pointed to the recent additions to the Rameswaram, Chidambaram, and Tiruchendore temples, and to the erection of new temples at Kaladi and Sringeri as showing that the master architects of the South like their brothers of the North, know their business and the requirements of their country and climate far better than the architect who refuses to understand the needs of a tropical climate and a conservative people but goes on building practically flat structures or other monstrosities. As an instance of this he contrasted the High Court of Madras and the Presidency College in the same city. The former owed its inspiration chiefly to a master-builder and the later to the aesthetics of the Public Works Department.

FROM PAGE ONE

## Retail inflation at almost eight-year high at 7.8%

Inflation in food and beverages, which has a 46% weight in the overall Consumer Price Index (CPI), sped up to 8.1% in April, from 7.47% in March, led primarily by a quickening in vegetables inflation to 15.4% from March's 11.6%.

The pace of price rise in oil and fats eased marginally to 17.3%, from 18.8% in March. Meat and fish inflation also cooled a bit to about 7% in April from 9.63% in the previous month.

Food inflation at 8.4% was significant as inflation in cereals was high because of higher wheat prices, said Bank of Baroda chief economist Madan Sabnavis, pointing to the increased diversion of the grain for exports as the cause for shortages in the country.

Transport and Communication inflation, which reflects automobile fuel prices, raced to 10.9%, surging by almost 300 basis points from the preceding month's 8% reading.

The government may consider using the additional fiscal capacity reflected in higher GST collections in April and the 49% uptick registered in direct tax collections in 2021-22, to reduce central excise duty rates on petroleum products with a view to containing inflation, Mr. Srivastava suggested. There had to be some reduction in taxes and duties by the government to cool price pressures, echoed Mr. Sabnavis.

## Gotabaya appoints Ranil as Sri Lanka's PM

"Congratulations to the newly appointed Prime Minister of #lka, @RW_UNP. I wish you all the best as you navigate these troubled times," he said in a tweet minutes after his successor was sworn in.

Even before Mr. Wickremesinghe was sworn in by the President, some religious leaders objected to the move, contending that it was "not the solution" people want, and that it would further escalate the crisis.

Prominent Buddhist monk Omalpe Sobitha Thero said Ranil Wickremesinghe was "not suitable" for the job. His appointment "completely disregarded" the proposal made by high-ranking monks to appoint an all-party interim government and was aimed at the "sole protection" of the Rajapaksas, he said.

Archbishop of Colombo Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith, was quoted by local media as saying, "People want a person with integrity, not someone who has been defeated in politics."

The political opposition too expressed strong disapproval at the President's choice. Leader of the leftist Janata Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) Anura Kumara Dissanayake said: "Ranil protects the Rajapaksas, and the Rajapaksas protect Ranil. No citizen in this country will fall for their conspiracy this time."

Tamil National Alliance lawmaker M.A. Sumanthiran said: "The President has completely lost legitimacy, people want him to go home, and the Parliament will soon vote on a motion expressing displeasure over him. Mr. Wickremesinghe had no legitimacy in the current Parliament right from the beginning. He did not even win in his constituency."

The Parliament stands adjourned till May 17, when the vote on the President is scheduled to be taken up. Mr. Wickremesinghe may face a trust vote soon after. In order to continue as PM, he must show he has the confidence of the House.

In a cautiously worded reaction on the development, India said it "looks forward to working with the Government of Sri Lanka formed in accordance with democratic processes pursuant to the swearing in of" Mr. Wickremesinghe.

"High Commission of India hopes for political stability and looks forward to working with the Government of Sri Lanka formed in accordance with democratic processes pursuant to the swearing in of Hon'ble @RW_UNP as the Prime Minister of #SriLanka," said an official tweet.

## Finland leaders say country will seek NATO membership

### Kremlin warns of retaliatory steps

**Security shift:** Finland's President Sauli Niinistö, right, and PM Sanna Marin in Helsinki, in this file photo. • AFP

ASSOCIATED PRESS
HELSINKI

Finland's leaders on Thursday came out in favour of applying to join NATO, and Sweden could do the same within days, in a historic realignment on the continent two-and-a-half months after Russian President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine.

The Kremlin reacted by warning it will be forced to take retaliatory "military-technical" steps.

On the ground, meanwhile, Russian forces pounded areas in Ukraine's east, including the last pocket of resistance in Mariupol, as part its offensive to take the vital industrial Donbas region, while Ukraine recaptured some towns and villages in the northeast.

Finland's President and Prime Minister announced that the Nordic country should apply right away for membership in NATO, the military defence pact founded in part to counter the Soviet Union.

This means Finland is all but certain to apply – and gain admission – though the process could take months to complete. Sweden, likewise, is considering applying for membership.

That would represent a major shift in Europe's security landscape: Sweden has avoided military alliances for more than 200 years, while Finland adopted neutrality after its defeat by the Soviets in World War II.

Such an expansion of the alliance would leave Russia surrounded by NATO countries in the Baltic Sea and the Arctic and would amount to a stinging setback for Mr. Putin, who had hoped to divide and roll back NATO in Europe but is instead seeing the exact opposite happen.

# Court nod for videography inside Gyanvapi mosque

### Judge rejects mosque committee's demand to replace advocate commissioner

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

A Varanasi court on Thursday gave its consent for videography inside the Gyanvapi mosque premises by an advocate commissioner on a petition filed by five Hindu plaintiffs demanding daily access to a Hindu site, Maa Shringar Gauri, for prayers, claimed by them to be located outside the western wall of the mosque.

Security personnel keep vigil after security was beefed up following the court's verdict in Varanasi on Thursday. • PTI

The court rejected the mosque committee's demand to replace advocate commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra. The committee had accused him of being "biased" in favour of the Hindu plaintiffs but the court found no merit in their argument. Also, the court appointed two more advocate commissioners – special advocate commissioner Vishal Singh and assistant advocate commissioner Ajay Pratap Singh – to assist Mr. Mishra in the videography. The commission should complete its inspection and submit a report to the court by May 17, the judge said.

**'Inspection won't stop'**

The advocate commissioner would be "independent" in conducting the videography and clicking photos as per the pointers suggested by the plaintiffs, said civil judge (senior division) Ravi Kumar Diwakar. The process of inspection would not be stopped under any condition whether any of the parties cooperate or not, the judge said.

The Hindu plaintiffs had demanded that the advocate commissioner be allowed to conduct videography inside the premises of the Gyanvapi mosque and its *tehkhana* (cellar), even if it meant breaking its lock. However, the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid, the caretakers of the mosque, had vehemently objected to this, both in court and on spot, following which the advocate commissioner-led video inspection was halted on the first day, May 6.

Judge Diwakar, in his order, said the district administration had the full right to open or break the lock if a barrier was created at any place during inspection. "If anyone creates any hindrance, like if there are locks at some places, then the district administration will have the full right to get the locks opened or broken for the commission's action," said the court. The court also directed that an FIR be lodged against those who hinder the process of videography.

While the mosque committee had submitted that the Maa Shringar Gauri site as claimed by the plaintiffs was outside the western wall of the mosque and hence no videography was needed inside the mosque, the court said the report would make it clear where it was located.

## Report sought on Jharkhand 'conversions'

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI

The National Human Rights Commission has sought action-taken reports from the Jharkhand government and police on alleged mass conversions of tribal people to Christianity.

The NHRC on Wednesday asked the Jharkhand Chief Secretary and Director-General of Police to submit ATRs within four weeks. The commission was acting on a May 5 complaint by Madan Mohan Priye. "The complainant refers to a specific incident which took place at Golmuri in Jamshedpur on February 28, 2022 when some Hindu groups objected to an assembly being carried out," the NHRC proceedings stated.

# Kashmiri Pandit shot dead in J&K

### Kashmir Tigers claimed responsibility for attack; incident happened in Budgam

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

Militants shot dead a civilian, who belonged to the minority Kashmiri Pandit community, at Budgam in central Kashmir on Thursday evening.

According to the police, Rahul Bhat, 35, an employee in the Tehsildar's office at Chadoora in Budgam, was inside the office premises when at least two gunmen opened fire from a close range. He died of injuries in a hospital.

Mr. Bhat was living at the migrant transit camp at Sheikhpura in Budgam and was appointed under the special Prime Minister's employment package for Kashmiri migrants in 2010.

The police said preliminary investigation revealed that two terrorists were involved in the crime and they used a pistol. A little-known outfit, Kashmir Tigers, claimed on social media that it was responsible for the attack. However, the claim was not immediately corroborated by the J&K police.

Family members of the civilian belonging to the Kashmiri Pandit community mourn his death on Thursday. • NISSAR AHMAD

"He was hit inside his office. It isn't an ordinary matter. It means it was deliberate, a murder. There should be an inquiry," the victim's father said.

**Protests in the Valley**

The killing sparked protests at the migrant transit camps in south, central and north Kashmir. "We were dying then (in the 1990s). We are getting killed now. Nothing has changed for us," said a protesting Kashmiri Pandit employee at Sheikhpura.

Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti, condemning the gruesome act, said, "Another life ended and another family devastated. My heart goes out to the bereaved family in this hour of grief. It also belies the false claims of normalcy in Kashmir".

National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah said he unequivocally condemned the militant attack. "Targeted killings continue and a sense of fear grows unchecked," Mr. Abdullah said.

J&K Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha said, "Those behind this despicable terror attack will not go unpunished. J&K Govt stands in solidarity with the bereaved family in this hour of grief".

# Calls for global efforts to curb match-fixing

### CBI participates in Interpol's Task Force meeting; ways to improve intelligence sharing discussed

DEVESH K PANDEY
NEW DELHI

The 12th meeting of Interpol's Match-Fixing Task Force (IMFTF), in which the Central Bureau of Investigation was one of the participants, concluded on Thursday with a call for harmonised global efforts to curb competition manipulation.

The participants discussed the emerging uses of technology, big data and social media given that criminal syndicates were increasingly operating across betting and sports markets.

"They also acknowledged that match-fixers are still very much relying on tried and true methods of manipulation, such as targeting the entourage of athletes and grooming young players, pointing to a continued need for education," the Interpol said in a statement.

**Institutional gaps**

At the event, the members deliberated on various mechanisms to improve intelligence sharing and plug legislative and institutional gaps through methods "such as the establishment of national platforms, as outlined in the Macolin Convention, that centralise and analyse information on irregular and suspicious trends".

The Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions, known as the Macolin Convention, is a multilateral treaty aimed at checking match-fixing. It came into force on September 1, 2019.

"The three-day (May 10-12) meeting brought together integrity and intelligence specialists from some 50 countries, representing law enforcement, public authorities, sports federations, anti-doping organisations and betting monitoring services," said the Interpol, adding that it was the first major event held under the banner of its newly created Financial Crime and Anti-Corruption Centre.

The Interpol gave an overview of the specific tools available to law enforcement agencies regarding data collection on sport corruption and financial crimes analysis. "A number of countries presented recently issued Interpol Purple Notices providing information on the *modus operandi* linked to social media, identity theft, ghost and fake matches," it said.

**Closed-door session**

The meeting included a closed-door session to share case studies, discuss emerging match-fixing tactics and plan multi/bilateral meetings for coordination with respect to active international cases.

"Exchanges revealed that while betting intelligence remained important to investigations, other sources of intelligence also needed to be exploited. For example, although doping has traditionally been viewed through a drug-enforcement lens, participants heard that positive doping tests and alerts could be a valuable source of intelligence for integrity investigations, notably on the criminal organisations behind competition manipulation," said the Interpol.

# Event Horizon Telescope reveals true colours of SgrA*

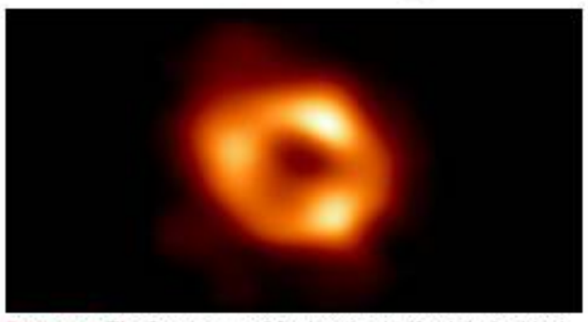
### Telescope, a collaboration of 300 researchers, captured image of the black hole

SHUBASHREE DESIKAN
CHENNAI

Scientists from the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) facility, at press conferences held simultaneously at several centres around the world on Thursday, revealed the first image of the black hole at the centre of the Milky Way.

The image of Sagittarius A* (SgrA*) gave further support to the idea that the compact object at the centre of our galaxy is indeed a black hole, strengthening Einstein's general theory of relativity.

In 2019, the Event Horizon Telescope facility, a collaboration of over 300 researchers, made history by releasing the first-ever image of a black hole, M87* – the black hole at the centre of Messier 87, a supergiant elliptic galaxy.



**Rare snap:** The first image of Sagittarius A* (SgrA*), the black hole at the centre of the Milky Way galaxy. • REUTERS

The ring-shaped image of SgrA*, which looked a lot similar to the one of M87*, occupied 52 microarcseconds in the field of view, which is as big a span of our view as a doughnut on the moon.

The whole exercise was possible because of the enormous power of the Event Horizon Telescope, an ensemble of several telescopes around the world, which together were like a giant eye on the earth with a sight that is 3 million times sharper than the human eye. Sagittarius A* is 27,000 light years from us. At the press conference, the researchers said that imaging Sagittarius A* (SgrA*) was much more difficult than imaging M87*: first, SgrA* is only one-thousandth the size of M87*; second, the line of sight is obscured by a lot of matter; and as SgrA* is much smaller than M87*, the gas swirling around it takes only minutes to complete an orbit around SgrA* as opposed to taking weeks to go around M87*. The last gives a variability that makes it difficult to image. A clear imaging requires long exposure of eight to 10 hours, where ideally the object should not change much.

In this relation, Venkatessh Ramakrishnan, a post-doctoral researcher at Aalto University Metsahovi Radio Observatory, a member of the calibration and imaging team, says, "Since the physics of plasma flows around SgrA* changes on an hourly time-scale, getting a coherent image with all relevant information from photons corresponding to one orbit is difficult. This requires higher sensitive observations, which comes with the addition of telescopes to the EHT and with advanced image reconstruction algorithms." He is an author of the paper on this work that is published today in *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*.

The collaboration hopes to improve their capacity so that they can not only image black holes but construct movies and study the magnetic field further.

## SC refuses to give interim relief against LIC IPO

### It issues notice to Central government

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday refused to grant any interim relief against the sale of the 3.5% shareholding of the government in the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) through an IPO.

A Bench, however, issued notice to the government on the question whether the IPO would amount to "expropriation of surplus asset available to policyholders in favour of shareholders".

The court also took note of the challenge to the amendments made to the LIC Act, 1956 through the Finance Act 2021, which was passed as a Money Bill.

It tagged the issue with a reference pending before a Constitution Bench that is examining the legality of the passage of amendments in the Finance Act as a Money Bill. The petitioners contended that the amendments made in the 1956 Act to facilitate the IPO amounted to "expropriation of surplus assets from policyholders to shareholders".

The Act originally required 95% of all of LIC's annual surpluses to be allocated to the participating policyholders and the remainder to be utilised at the discretion of the Centre.

The 1956 Act had put a premium on the protection of the interests of the policyholders. The government was in the role of a "trustee and the custodian of the funds that are for the benefit of the policyholders and policyholders alone", they noted.

They said it were "unreasonable, manifestly arbitrary expropriatory act", which seeks to deprive the rights of the policyholders.

IN BRIEF

### 2 dead as Chhattisgarh govt. chopper crashes

RAIPUR

A Chhattisgarh government helicopter crashed at the Raipur airport on Thursday night, killing two pilots, the police said. The incident took place during a flying practice at the Swami Vivekananda Airport in Raipur around 9.10 p.m., said Senior Superintendent of Police Prashant Agrawal. Two pilots on board, Captian Gopal Krishna Panda and Captain A.P. Shrivastava, were seriously injured in the crash and immediately taken to a nearby private hospital where they were declared dead. The cause of the crash was not immediately known. PTI

### IMA asks Mandaviya to reschedule NEET exam

NEW DELHI

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) on May 12 wrote to Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, seeking his urgent intervention in rescheduling the dates for the NEET PG 2022 exam, which is currently set to be conducted on May 21. In the letter, the IMA has written that it wants the dates of the NEET PG 2022 examination to be further pushed as the medical entrance test is now clashing with NEET PG 2021 counselling, giving aspirants less time to prepare for the test. The Supreme Court has agreed to hear a plea on postponement on May 13.

### IAF test fires Extended Range BrahMos missile

NEW DELHI

The Extended Range version of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile was successfully test-fired for the first time from a Su-30MKI fighter on Thursday, the IAF said. "The launch from the aircraft was as planned and the missile achieved a direct hit on the designated target in the Bay of Bengal region," it said. This gives the IAF a strategic reach and allows it to dominate future battle fields, a statement said.

### RMP to hold seminar on dynastic politics

NEW DELHI

The Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini a think tank associated with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), will be holding a day-long seminar on the "Threat of dynastic political parties to democratic governance" on May 19. BJP president J.P. Nadda will address the seminar with Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, Minister R.C.P. Singh of the Janata Dal(U) and M. Thambidurai of the AIADMK. It will explore setting up a regulatory framework against dynasticism. The venue is Nehru Memorial Museum and Library in New Delhi.

# Prime Minister calls for WHO reform

## At global summit on COVID-19, Modi also seeks a review of the vaccine approval processes

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

A week after the government denied the World Health Organisation's figures for deaths in India linked to COVID-19, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for a reform of the UN health body, and a review of its processes on vaccine approvals.

The Prime Minister was speaking at the second global COVID-19 summit co-hosted by the United States, which was addressed virtually by U.S. President Joseph Biden, and a number of other leaders including those from the African Union, European Union, Canada, Germany, South Africa, Japan and South Korea.

Mr. Modi also called for the World Trade Organization to be more "flexible" on the issue of patent waivers, where a joint India-South Africa proposal made in 2020 has not yet been adopted.

**Precious doses:** Over 90% of the adult population in India has received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. •K. PICHUMANI

"WHO must be reformed and strengthened to build a more resilient global health security architecture," the Prime Minister said in his speech at the opening session. "We also call for streamlining WHO's approval process for vaccines and therapeutics to keep supply chains stable and predictable."

In a report released last week, the WHO had estimated 4.7 million deaths directly or indirectly linked to COVID-19 in India in the years 2020 and 2021, about 10 times what the government figures estimate.

Government sources had called the study flawed, and contested the data, collection methodology and model used by the WHO, adding that India's concerns had been raised with WHO Director-General Tedros Ghebreyesus during his visit to India.

India also protested the long delay in obtaining WHO approval for the Indian-made Covaxin developed by Bharat Biotech, which was finally given in November 2021.

In his speech at the session, Mr. Ghebreyesus referred to the massive global COVID-19 deaths estimate of just under 15 million people worldwide, and called for a renewed push for vaccine supply and distribution to reach a goal of 70% of the population, funding the WHO's Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, and more contributions to close the funding gap for countering COVID.

In his speech, Mr. Modi said India's vaccination programme is the largest in the world and that India has fully vaccinated almost 90% of the adult population.

"India supplied over 200 million doses to 98 countries, bilaterally and through COVAX (global distribution network). India has developed low-cost COVID mitigation technologies for testing, treating and data management. We have offered these capabilities to other countries," the Prime Minister added.

# Those who seek Congress-free India will be decimated: Gehlot

## 'The people look towards the party to take on the BJP'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
UDAIPUR/NEW DELHI

There will never be a Congress-free India but those wishing so will be decimated, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said on Thursday.

Addressing reporters in Udaipur on the eve of the Congress's three-day *Chintan Shivir*, he said the grand old party was the main Opposition party and people looked towards it to take on the BJP.

Mr. Gehlot also took on the BJP's turf of nationalism, and said the party's leadership, be it former Prime Ministers Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi or former Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh, had a long history of sacrifice to protect the unity and integrity of the nation.

Ashok Gehlot

"It is sad that despite this, those in power now ask what the Congress has done in the past 70 years. They talk about Congress-*mukt* Bharat. There will never be a Congress-*mukt* Bharat," Mr. Gehlot said.

Responding to BJP chief J.P. Nadda's attack on the Rajasthan government over the alleged rise in crime in the State, Mr. Gehlot said he had made registration of first information report (FIR) compulsory which was why "crime statistics were bound to rise".

Mr. Gehlot said democracy was in danger as the Constitution was being attacked on a daily basis and "there is an atmosphere of tension and violence everywhere". The Chief Minister dared the Centre to probe the violence on Ram Navami across eight States.

On Thursday evening, Rahul Gandhi, accompanied by senior leaders, took a train to the *Chintan Shivir* venue.

# Rajiv Kumar to take over as CEC on May 15

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar would take charge as the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) on May 15 after the incumbent Sushil Chandra retires on Saturday, the Union Law and Justice Ministry announced on Thursday.

Mr. Kumar has been a member of the three-person Election Commission of India since September 1, 2020. Prior to that, he served as the chairman of the Public Enterprises Selection Board. A 1984-batch IAS officer of the Bihar/Jharkhand cadre, Mr. Kumar retired from the civil service in February 2020 from the post of Union Finance Secretary.

# Rijiju, Chidambaram spar over sedition law

## Tiff over Lakshman rekha comment

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

As former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram on Thursday questioned Law Minister Kiren Rijiju's *Lakshman rekha* comment over the Supreme Court's order to pause filing fresh cases under the sedition law, the Law Minister reminded him of the decisions taken by the Jawaharlal Nehru and the Indira Gandhi governments to strengthen the sedition law.

On Wednesday, after the court's order about putting the sedition law in abeyance, Mr. Rijiju had said the powers of the executive, legislature and judiciary were demarcated and none should cross the *Lakshman rekha*.

Responding to these remarks, Mr. Chidambaram said, "The Law Minister of India has no authority to draw any arbitrary *Lakshman rekha*. He should read Article 13 of the Constitution. The legislature cannot make a law, nor can a law be allowed to remain on the statute book, that violates the Fundamental Rights."

"The sedition law, in the view of many legal scholars, violates Articles 19 and 21 of the Constitution. All the King's horses and all the King's men cannot save that law," he added.

Quoting the former Union Minister's tweet, Mr. Rijiju said, "That's why Nehru Ji brought in the First Amendment and Smt Indira Gandhi made Section 124A a cognisable offence for the first time in India's history?"

The Law Minister also alleged during the Anna movement and other anti-corruption movements, citizens were subjected to harassment, intimidation and arrests.

"Congress government overturned a court verdict because that government was neck deep in vote bank politics. UPA Govt has the worst track record of filing sedition cases. Our Govt. will protect the unity, integrity & sovereignty of India & rights of the citizens enshrined in our Constitution,"Mr. Rijiju said in another tweet.

# 'Full coverage of govt. schemes will end appeasement politics'

## Modi interacts with beneficiaries over videoconferencing

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday that when a government welfare scheme achieves 100% coverage of the target audience, it ends the politics of appeasement.

He was interacting with the beneficiaries of welfare schemes in Bharuch in Gujarat via videoconferencing. The event was to mark 100% saturation of four key State government schemes in the district which will help provide timely financial assistance to eligible beneficiaries.

"When the government schemes achieve complete coverage of targeted beneficiaries, it ends discrimination and the need for a recommendation to get the benefits," the Prime Minister said.

He emphasised the need to create awareness of the welfare schemes. "If there is lack of information about government schemes, they either remain on paper or its benefits are cornered by those the scheme is not meant for," he said.

**Listening in:** Narendra Modi interacting with government scheme beneficiaries in Bharuch, Gujarat. •PTI

The Prime Minister interacted with the beneficiaries and talked about how the schemes under "Utkarsh Initiative" had helped them. "Utkarsh Initiative", carried out by the district administration from January 1 to March 31 this year, was aimed at ensuring complete coverage of schemes providing assistance to widows, the elderly and destitute citizens.

According to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), 12,854 beneficiaries were identified for the four schemes in the district and all were provided with financial assistance under the respective schemes.

During the drive, WhatsApp helpline numbers were announced for each taluk to collect information about those who were not receiving the benefits.

Subsequently, Utkarsh camps were organised in all villages and wards of municipality areas for applicants to provide necessary documents for on-the-spot approval.

# Elections to 57 Rajya Sabha seats on June 10

## Many key leaders are set to retire

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission on Thursday announced polls to 57 Rajya Sabha seats, including those of retiring Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman, Piyush Goyal and Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, on June 10.

The term of the 57 MPs from 15 States would come to an end in the period from June to August, the EC said.

Among those retiring are Congress leaders Kapil Sibal, Jairam Ramesh and P. Chidambaram; Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut; and BJP MPs Vinay Sahasrabuddhe and Syed Zafar Islam.

Six seats from Tamil Nadu would also be up for polls with the retirement of MPs T.K.S Elangovan, A. Navaneethakrishnan, R.S. Bharathi, S.R. Balasubramoniyan, A. Vijayakumar and K.R.N. Rajeshkumar.

According to the EC schedule, nominations for the polls would be open from May 24 to 31.

A view of the Parliament House in New Delhi.

Polling would be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the respective State Assemblies and votes would be counted from 5 p.m. on June 10.

The EC also announced polls for four Karnataka Legislative Council seats on June 13.

# Modi to hold talks with Deuba

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Lumbini in Nepal for Buddha Purnima on May 16, the Ministry of External Affairs announced on Thursday.

This will be his fifth visit to Nepal since assuming office in 2014, but his first visit after Mr. Modi was re-elected in 2019.

He will also hold a bilateral meeting with Nepal Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba, who will meet him in Lumbini.

The two leaders will visit the Mayadevi temple, dedicated to the Buddha's mother who gave birth there, and they will attend a foundation-laying ceremony for a centre for Buddhist culture and heritage, the MEA said.

As *The Hindu* reported last week, Mr. Modi will fly to Lumbini by helicopter after landing at the new Kushinagar airport in Uttar Pradesh. He will not visit Kathmandu, and will fly back to New Delhi the same afternoon.

"Prime Minister Modi's visit continues the tradition of regular high-level exchanges between India and Nepal in furtherance of our Neighbourhood First policy. It underscores the shared civilisational heritage of the people of both countries," the MEA statement announcing the visit said.

**Cultural bonds**

A similar statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kathmandu said that the upcoming visit by Mr. Modi will "contribute to further strengthening the bilateral relations and the age-old socio-cultural bonds between the two countries".

Nepal's Foreign Minister Narayan Khadka will call on Mr. Modi during his trip, it added.

# Congress continues targeting NCP for 'betraying' MVA

STAFF REPORTER
MUMBAI

The Maharashtra unit of the Congress continued its attack on ally Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) on the second consecutive day, reiterating that it backstabbed the party in the election of zilla parishad and for panchayat samiti presidents.

On Wednesday, State Congress president Nana Patole, miffed over the NCP joining hands with the BJP at the Gondia zilla parishad, had said, "The NCP has backstabbed Congress despite all three parties in MVA having previously agreed upon bringing MVA in power in local bodies. The NCP openly joined hands with the BJP, which is unacceptable."

On Thursday, Mr. Patole reminded NCP of the written agreementamong the three parties, signed by him, NCP state president Jayant Patil and senior Shiv Sena leader Subhash Desai.

The agreement dated January 30, 2022, says that along with winning more seats, it is important that the MVA contributes as many presidents as possible to these local bodies through mutual coordination.

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**NOTIFICATION**

Karnataka Food & Civil Supplies Corporation Limited, Bengaluru invites Expression of Interest (EoI) for "Appointment of Third Party Assaying Agency to carry out sampling, testing and quality certification of food commodities under Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDM Scheme) under e-procurement mode/other mode". The Expression of Interest (EoI) and other details can be obtained from the e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** and KFCSC Website: **https://kfcsc.karnataka.gov.in**

**Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR**

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Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pashan, Pune-411008
(विज्ञापन सं. पीईआर/02/2022)
(Advt. No. PER/02/2022)

भारतीय उष्णदेशीय मौसम विज्ञान संस्थान, पुणे द्वारा आईआईटीएम अनुसंधान सहयोगी, आईआईटीएम अधेता एवं एमआरएफ़ी अधेता पद पर भर्ती हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं।
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At : Ichhapur, Post : Shree Baladevjew, Email : eerwsskendrapara@gmail.com
**Identification No.RWS/103/2021-2022**
Letter No. 3263 / Dated 29/04/22

**5th Corrigendum**

This corrigendum has been made for the NIT-103 invited online vide this office letter No. 1518 / Dated. 04.03.2022 with date for selling, closing, clarification and opening which was on dt. 30.04.2022 (selling date), 18.05.2022 (closing date), 04.05.2022 (clarification date) 19.05.2022 (opening date) as per 4th Corrigendum has been amended and to be read as **18.05.2022, 03.06.2022, 20.05.2022 and 04.06.2022 respectively** as follows.

| Sl No | Name of Work | Estimated Cost (Apprx.) Rs. In Lakhs | EMD to be deposited online | Class of Bidder | Cost of Tender Paper | Period of completion |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Execution of 40 LPCD Retrofitting RPWS Scheme to **Parakula and Jamapada,** on clubbed up mode under **Marshaghai** Block in the District of Kendrapara. **(JJM Funds)** | ₹ 320.47 | Nil | "A" and "Special" | ₹ 10000 | 360 days |
| 2. | Execution of 40 LPCD Retrofitting RPWS Scheme to **Kharianta of Mahakalapada and Pakshyot of Marshaghai,** on clubbed up mode under **Marshaghai** Block in the District of Kendrapara. **(JJM Funds)** | ₹ 268.72 | Nil | "B" & "A" | ₹ 10000 | 330 days |

**(Er.B.K.Nayak)**
**Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Kendrapara**
O-200: OPR-25004/11/0029/2223

**BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE**
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Yelahanka Division, Bengaluru - 560064.
No: BBMP/EE/YNK.D/E-PMT/04/2022-23 Date: 12-05-2022

**INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - SHORT TERM**
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Yelahanka Division invites tenders on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP, Bengaluru from eligible tenderers for the construction of works detailed below.
**(Standard Tender Document - KW-1, KW-2, KW-3 & KW-4)**

| Sl. No. | Name of the Work / Category | Estimate Cost (Rs. in Lakhs) | EMD (Rs. in Lakhs) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Additional Developments to Yelahanka Kalyani in Kempegowda Ward No. 01 of Yelahanka Sub Division | 60.00 | 1.20 |
| 2 | Construction of Drain Parallel to Railway Line at Suggappa Layout in Kempegowda Ward No. 01 of Yelahanka Sub Division. | 75.00 | 1.50 |
| 3 | Drilling of Borewells and Providing GYM and Children Play Equipments in Yelahanka Lake at Ward No. 01 | 50.00 | 1.00 |
| 4 | Improvements and Development of Santha Sevelal Park in Attur Ward No. 03 of Yelahanka Satellite Town Sub Division of Yelahanka Sub Division. | 100.00 | 1.50 |
| 5 | Improvements and Development of Sangolli Rayanna Park in Attur Ward No. 03 of Yelahanka Satellite Town Sub Division. | 100.00 | 1.50 |
| 6 | Asphalting and Balance Roads at Muneshwara Layout in Ward No. 03 of Yelahanka Satellite Town Sub Division. | 70.00 | 1.40 |
| 7 | Improvements and Asphalting to Chikkadinne and Surrounding Areas in Attur Ward No. 03 of Yelahanka Satellite Town Sub Division. | 200.00 | 3.00 |
| 8 | Construction of Lead of Drain at 16th A Cross in Ward No. 04 of Yelahanka Satellite Town Sub Division. | 100.00 | 1.50 |
| 9 | Asphalting of Balance Roads at Mathru Layout in Ward No. 04 of Yelahanka Satellite Town Sub Division. | 70.00 | 1.40 |
| 10 | Improvements and Development of Raj Park in Yelahanka New Town Ward No. 04 of Yelahanka Satellite Town Sub Division. | 100.00 | 1.50 |
| 11 | Construction of Roads and Drains at 22nd 'B' Cross Roads, Housing Board 'C' Block near Hoysala Stadium in Ward No. 04 Yelahanka New Town Sub Division. **(SC Reserve) - (Call-2)** | 25.00 | 0.50 |

**Calendar of Events: 1)** The tender document can be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement portal Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in 2)** Date of Pre Bid Meeting on **20-05-2022 at 16.00 Hrs. at the Office of the Executive Engineer (Yelahanka Division). 3)** Tenders must be submitted online through e-Procurement portal **on or before 16.00 Hrs. on 26-05-2022. 4)** Date of Opening of Bids **on 27-05-2022 after 16.00 Hrs.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Yelahanka Division, BBMP.**

*PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU*
COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

## Booster shot for citizens going abroad

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Indian citizens and students travelling overseas can now take the precautionary dose of COVID vaccine as required by the guidelines of the destination country, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said in a tweet on Thursday. He added that the CoWIN portal would soon be updated to provide the new facility.

The relaxation comes based on the recommendations by the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI). The move will now allow those wanting to get the precautionary dose, after the second dose, to cut the stipulated nine-month waiting period in India.

The Ministry has been getting multiple representations seeking the booster dose for those who have to travel abroad for employment, business commitments, admission to foreign educational institutes, participating in sports events, and bilateral and multilateral meetings as part of India's official delegation.

## No bail for ex-chief, COO of NSE

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A special CBI court in Delhi on Thursday denied bail to former National Stock Exchange chief Chitra Ramkrishna and former group operating officer Anand Subramaniam in the case relating to the NSE co-location scam.

Special Judge Sanjeev Aggarwal pronounced in court that both pleas were being dismissed. The CBI had submitted that the two were accused of a serious offence that had "quite severe and far-reaching" consequences on the country's financial stability. A detailed order is awaited.

# *A one-man rescue mission for wild orchids in Assam*

After years of rescuing wild orchids from fires and deforestation, Mithu Gogoi has a garden where 9,000 burst into bloom every spring

PRABALIKA M. BORAH

In spring, Mithu Gogoi from Titabor in Jorhat, Assam, has some 40 visitors at home every day. During the Bihu season last month, there were days when he and his wife, Bonti Gogoi, hosted up to 400 a day.

These visitors are not his friends or relatives. They are strangers – tourists and students – who want to see his

SPECIAL

personal orchid collection. Spread over less than one acre, this garden, which is set in his family home, blooms with a staggering 9,000 orchid plants, and is open to all at no cost. In April, when they are in full bloom, the space is especially pretty: you may have seen it captured on camera by enamoured Instagrammers by now.

"Most of them are rescued from forest fires due to *jhum* cultivation or from trees that were axed for road widening," Mr. Gogoi says. "The forests of upper Assam have beautiful wild orchids that are fast disappearing due to deforestation. Around 90% of Assam's orchids have disappeared. I wanted to save them for future generations; otherwise, they will only see them in photos."

Mithu Gogoi with orchids at his garden at Titabor in Jorhat. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

### Legal blooms

As a farmer, Mr. Gogoi takes pride in being able to grow this breed aplenty in his home garden. Orchids usually grow wild and it is illegal to grow some varieties at home, as per the Biodiversity Act, 2002, because they are categorised as an endangered species. Hence, he has ensured that his collection consists of only legal blooms.

His personal collection – which bursts with shades of yellow, pink, purple, white and orange – includes a number of Foxtail orchids or *Kopou phool (Rhynchostlis retusa)*, the State flower of Assam. He also has orchid breeds such as *Rhynchostlis retusa* white, *Dendrobium lituiflorum* yellow, *Vanda ampullacea*, to name a few.

He grows orchids in flower pots, tree barks and on A-grade wood (a soft variety that does not rot and is resistant to termites). Orchids need a moist climate for the roots to grow. Caring for them is like nurturing a child he says; one has to devote close to two hours every day watering, pruning and checking the condition and growth of roots.

Now a renowned orchid conservationist, Mr. Gogoi began his tryst with the flowers when his family's land was cleared for a tea plantation in 2007. As the trees were felled, he carefully collected the orchids and brought them home, setting up an environment they could thrive in. "I became obsessed with them," he says.

"When I travelled around northeast India, I also started to learn about orchids. I am part of the Orchid Protection Society in Jorhat, a 47-member society."

So far, the society has been able to rescue more than 100 plants by networking with orchids research centres from different States of the northeast, he says, adding, "We rescue roadside plants, put some back in their natural habitat and plant some at home so that the breed – no matter how common – survives."

# 'Hunger risk from climate threat'

IFPRI projects scenario for 2030 keeping impact of climate change in mind

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

India's food production could drop 16% and the number of those at risk for hunger could increase 23% by 2030 due to climate change, says a report by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) on climate change and food systems.

These projections are part of a model that was used to evaluate the impact of climate change on aggregate food production, food consumption (kilocalories per person per day), net trade of major food commodity groups, and the population at risk of going hungry. IMPACT, as the model is called, simulates national and international agricultural markets.

It was developed with inputs from scientists from the Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers (CGIAR) and other leading global economic modelling efforts, the report notes.

**Bleak outlook:** The number of Indians at risk from hunger in 2030 is expected to be 73.9 million. • R.V. MOORTHY

The number of Indians at risk from hunger in 2030 is expected to be 73.9 million in 2030 and, if the effects of climate change were to be factored in, it would increase to 90.6 million. The aggregate food production index will, under similar conditions, drop from 1.6 to 1.5.

On a positive note, climate change will not impact the average calorie consumption of Indians and this is projected to remain roughly the same at 2,600 kcal per capita per day by 2030 even in a climate change scenario.

Baseline projections indicate that global food production will grow by about 60% over 2010 levels by 2050 in the context of climate change. Production and demand are projected to grow more rapidly in developing countries due to projected growth in population and incomes.

However, the long-term impacts of COVID-19 and other current geopolitical factors have not yet been incorporated in these projections. Diets are also shifting toward higher-value foods, including more fruits and vegetables, processed foods, and animal-source foods, outside high-income countries.

Meat production is projected to double in South Asia and West and Central Africa by 2030 and triple by 2050. Despite this, per capita consumption levels in developing countries will remain less than half of those in developed countries.

However, regional differences in access to food mean that nearly 500 million people are projected to remain at risk of going hungry. Globally, about 70 million more people will be at risk from hunger because of climate change, including more than 28 million in East and Southern Africa, the report added.

# Ujjwala LPG scheme: 90-lakh beneficiaries don't take refills

Over 1 crore customers got refills only once, shows RTI reply

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

In the financial year 2021-22, 90-lakh beneficiaries of the Narendra Modi government's flagship welfare scheme, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), did not take refill gas cylinders. And over one crore beneficiaries got their refills only once.

These revelations come against the backdrop of the much-feted *labharthi*, or beneficiary, class which reportedly voted in good numbers for the BJP in the recent elections, especially to the Uttar Pradesh Assembly. This was revealed in reply to a Right to Information (RTI) application filed by activist Chandrashekhar Gaur with the three oil marketing firms Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL).

The scheme was originally launched on May 1, 2016, in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with a target of releasing eight crore connections by March 2020. So far, over nine crore connections under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana has been released. The PMUY 2.0 was launched in 2021-22, making a provision for release of additional one crore connections.

According to the RTI replies, the IOCL, for the connections released by them till March 2021, 65 lakh customers have not refilled their connections during the past financial year. The figures for the HPCL and the BPCL are 9.1 lakh and 15.96 lakh, respectively.

The BPCL specified that the figure of 15.96 lakh is only for the connections released up to September 2019, which was the first round of the Ujjwala Yojana. The number of customers who got refill cylinders only once for the IOCL was 52 lakh, for HPCL 27.58 lakh and BPCL 28.56 lakh.

As per a reply filed by the government in the Lok Sabha in March this year, the LPG consumption under the Ujjwala Yojana remains 3.66 refills per connection annually.

### COVID effect

These figures should also take into account the fact that during the COVID-19 pandemic, the government provided up to three free of cost LPG refills to PMUY beneficiaries from April 1, 2020, and this was extended up to December 31, 2020.

PMUY beneficiaries have availed themselves of 14.17 crore free refills under the scheme, across the country, as per the same reply filed by the Union Petroleum Ministry in the Lok Sabha.

Congress leader Pradyut Bordoloi, a member of standing committee on Petroleum, told *The Hindu* that while the scheme was started with a good intent, it had inherent flaws which the government had failed to address. "The people are shocked to realise that they have to pay the full amount even under the scheme for the subsequent cylinders. The subsidy is transferred into their accounts by the oil marketing firms. While the firms claim that they have disbursed the subsidy, we don't know whether it reaches the beneficiaries on time. The cylinders end up being used as showpiece in their homes," he said.

He said he had requested the committee to do a detailed study on the yojana.

**Low usage** | The chart lists the States where LPG coverage was at least 98% but the share of households that used clean fuel (LPG/natural gas, biogas) for cooking was less than 80%

| State | Clean fuel usage (%) | State | Clean fuel usage (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| West Bengal | 40.2 | Manipur | 70.4 |
| Rajasthan | 41.4 | Kerala | 72.1 |
| Assam | 42.1 | Punjab | 76.7 |
| U.P. | 49.5 | Sikkim | 78.4 |
| Himachal | 51.7 | Karnataka | 79.7 |
| Uttarakhand | 59.2 | Maharashtra | 79.7 |
| Haryana | 59.5 | | |

SOURCE: NFHS 5 (2019-20)

# 'Safeguard domestic violence victims'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

In an important verdict safeguarding the interest of woman victims of domestic violence, the Supreme Court on Thursday gave a wide interpretation to the term 'right to reside in a shared household' under the law, holding it cannot be restricted to only actual matrimonial residence, but can be extended to other homes irrespective of the right over the property.

A Bench of Justices M.R. Shah and B.V. Nagarathna, while hearing the plea of a domestic violence victim after she was widowed, dealt with the unique situation of Indian women who live at places other than matrimonial homes, such as the workplaces of their husbands. "There could be several situations and circumstances and every woman in a domestic relationship can enforce her right to reside in a shared household irrespective of whether she has any right, title or beneficial interest in the same and the said right could be enforced by any woman under the said provision as an independent right...," the Bench said.

It held that the even in the absence of a "Domestic Incident Report" of a protection officer under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, reliefs such as right to reside in the shared matrimonial homes can be enforced. "It is held that Section 12 does not make it mandatory for a Magistrate to consider a Domestic Incident Report filed by a Protection Officer or service provider before passing any order under the DV Act.

"It is clarified that even in the absence of a Domestic Incident Report, a Magistrate is empowered to pass both ex parte or interim as well as a final order," Justice Nagarathna said.

If a woman has the right to reside in a shared household under the law and such a woman becomes a victim of domestic violence, then she can seek relief under the Act.

## Govt. mulls health centres at embassies

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Health Ministry may launch medical facilitation centres at Indian embassies around the world for people wishing to travel to India for treatment.

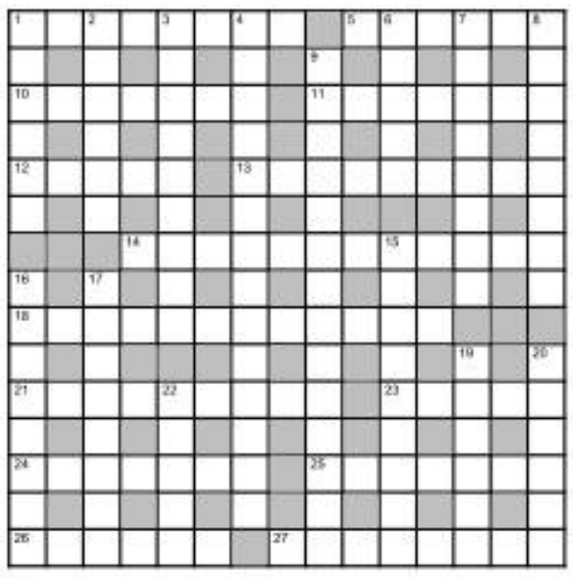
Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya announced this as part of building Brand India, at a roundtable conference with senior IFS officers.

## TH CROSSWORD + 13555

(set by Arden)

Display keystrokes of genius. Type your answers in our online grids. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



**ACROSS**

1 Hold up without support from a language scholar (8)
5 Drink very quietly, nothing in a war torn city (6)
10 Battens used to stop big fireworks, perhaps (4,3)
11 Authorise to return partly, felt it nearby (7)
12 Had a run in with a criminal – a hard nut to crack (5)
13 Almost fail to stop disturbance, being extremely biased (9)
14 Drunk has several of them set up (4-4-4)
18 Question about claim – is it another unusual trait? (12)
21 Primate's choice – draw one on each side --- (9)
23 ... it's a correlation with reduced quota (5)
24 Divine refusal leads to fire and brimstone (7)
25 List the various wild flowers (7)
26 Support foreign guests (6)
27 Order to take charge, evacuating base (8)

**DOWN**

1 Initially tough to stop him, one who kills (6)
2 Absorptions possible with Paris and another city (6)
3 Long Indian jacket worn like countrymen (9)
4 Caution: Gas if in circulation, then blood is being produced (14)
6 It's unusual, a thing that's part of law enforcement here (5)
7 Model exercises both sides, first lady finds it very annoying (3,5)
8 Start with open river (8)
9 Crib over a capital dish (4,10)
15 Miserable when relationship gets broken around (9)
16 Feeling love for Carol holding court before Wimbledon final (8)
17 Order fromage frais, roam with wild animals (8)
19 In law, getting out third time means bust (6)
20 Powerful businessman (6)
22 Scrambled egg or stuff? (5)

## SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 8 | 2 | | 3 | | | 9 | 5 |
| | | | 1 | 7 | 8 | | | |
| | | 7 | | 2 | | 1 | | |
| 8 | 4 | | | | | 9 | | |
| 2 | | | 3 | | 4 | | | 1 |
| | | 6 | | | | | 4 | 7 |
| | | 8 | | 5 | | 4 | | |
| | | | 9 | 4 | 1 | | | |
| 4 | 5 | | | 8 | | 6 | 7 | |

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to puzzle 13554

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 5 |
| 9 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 5 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 9 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 4 |
| 4 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 2 |
| 2 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| 3 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 7 |
| 1 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| 7 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 1 |

FAITH

## Maricha's meditation

The Ramayana shows that each one has to meet the consequences of all the good and evil deeds one has to his credit. The rakshasas by nature are merciless and wicked and are given to sinful deeds such as obstructing the performance of sacrifices by sages. In a discourse, Sengalipuram Sri Balaji Bhagavathar drew attention to the fact that when one acts against innocent people one can never be happy.

Desire, kama and greed, lobha only lead to dangerous consequences. This is well illustrated in the instances of Soorpanaka's desire for Rama and of Ravana's desire for Sita. At the instigation of the humiliated Soorpanaka, Ravana's lust is kindled and he decides to somehow possess Sita. When he seeks Maricha's help, Maricha tells Ravana his experiences with Rama and advises him against his decision to carry away Sita. He has been living in fear of Rama ever since he saw Rama's valour at the sacrifice of Vishwamitra. It was the Sankalpa of the 12-year-old Rama to spare his life then when He killed the other rakshasas along with Subahu. Rama's powerful missile aimed at Maricha had flung him in mid ocean at a distance of 800 miles. Maricha further relates to Ravana that he had another brush with Rama in the Dandakaranya. Since then, Maricha has been living in fear of Rama. Every tree in the entire forest looks like Rama to him.

Interpreters see Maricha's preoccupation with Rama as a great fortune. To see the Lord everywhere and at all times is the sole aim of sages with austere penance and practice sense control. The Bhagavata Purana shows that while many try to approach God through loving devotion, some like Hiranyaksha have attained Him through enmity. Maricha, like Kamsa, exemplifies the path of fear as an equally effective means to attain God.

# Mahinda, son can't leave country: court

## Magistrate orders the police to investigate Monday's mob attacks on peaceful anti-govt. protesters

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
COLOMBO

A Sri Lankan court on Thursday banned former Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, his politician son Namal and 15 allies from leaving the country over violence against anti-government demonstrators.

The magistrate in capital Colombo ordered the police to investigate Monday's mob attacks on peaceful protesters, which led to retaliatory violence that claimed nine lives and caused widespread destruction.

**Power source:** People queueing up to buy kerosene at a supply station after authorities relaxed the curfew for a few hours in Colombo on Thursday. • AFP

### Arrest warrant

A petition to the court had also asked for an arrest warrant against Mr. Mahinda and his associates, a court official said. "But the magistrate turned it down because police anyway have powers to detain any suspect," the official added.

Victims of Monday's violence say that Mr. Mahinda and key aides had bussed around 3,000 of their supporters into the capital and instigated them to attack peaceful protesters.

The loyalist mob poured out of his residence and assaulted anti-government demonstrators with sticks and clubs. Buddhist monks and Catholic priests were among at least 225 people hospitalised after the attack.

Reprisals soon spread across the country, with dozens of homes of Rajapaksa loyalists, including the official residence of Mr. Mahinda in Colombo, set ablaze.

The premier resigned and had to be evacuated from his home by heavily armed troops.

The 76-year-old former leader is currently holed up at a naval facility in the east of the island nation.

His son Namal, a former Minister, said on Tuesday that the Rajapaksa family had no intention of leaving the country.

# Seeking to counter China, Biden hosts ASEAN leaders

## Military-ruled Myanmar will not be represented at the meet

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Joe Biden will host leaders and top officials of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in Washington DC on Thursday and Friday, as the U.S. remains focussed on the Russia-Ukraine war and grapples with China's influence in the Pacific. The ASEAN "special summit" was postponed from the end of March and comes days before Mr. Biden's first trip to Asia as President.

**Making presence felt:** A file photo of U.S. President Joe Biden participating virtually in the ASEAN summit in 2021. • REUTERS

ASEAN member country Myanmar, whose junta overthrew the government in a coup on February 1 last year, will not be represented at the summit.

The U.S. had wanted a 'non-political' representative of Myanmar to attend the meetings. There will be an "empty chair" at the summit to reflect the leaders' "dissatisfaction with what's taken place" in the country, a senior U.S. administration official, who did not want to be named, told reporters on a briefing call on Wednesday.

ASEAN's 'Five Point Consensus' to end the turmoil in Myanmar has not progressed since it was released in April last year. In addition to discussing Myanmar, leaders are also expected to discuss Ukraine as well as regional issues.

The members of ASEAN are Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

With the administration of former U.S. President Donald Trump pulling the U.S. out of what was then called the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP, now called the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for the TPP, or CPTPP) and the U.S. not joining the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) trade agreement, of which China is a part, Washington ceded ground to Beijing in the ASEAN region, especially as far as economics is concerned.

"...Clearly, the Indo-Pacific is a broad region, and too often we speak a lot about Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, and India. But it's equally important to focus on the Pacific, and you will be seeing indications of that going forward," the official told reporters on Wednesday.

### Economic plan

Mr. Biden is expected to discuss his administration's economic plan for the region – the Indo Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) – during this week's summit.

The framework – which will structure cooperation across several pillars from infrastructure and supply chains to taxation – is likely to be formally unveiled during Mr. Biden's visit to Asia later in May.

The President will travel to South Korea for bilateral talks with new South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol and then on to Japan for a Quad leaders' summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison.

Mr. Modi is considering India's participation in the IPEF, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said during her visit to Washington DC in April.

During their visit to Washington, ASEAN representatives will meet U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi and members of both parties for a working lunch.

They will also have meetings on Thursday with business leaders – and be joined by U.S. officials, including Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo and U.S Trade Representative Katherine Tai – to discuss challenges, such as those related to technology, post-COVID-19 recovery, energy and climate, the administration official said on Wednesday.

Mr. Biden will also have "quick, private time" with each of the leaders, apart from hosting a dinner for them as a group, the official said.

Vice-President Kamala Harris and Secretary of State Antony Blinken will also hold meetings with officials .

# 'U.K. will act if N. Ireland Brexit deal is not changed'

## EU should show flexibility, says Truss

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

The U.K. will have "no choice but to act" unless the European Union agrees to change post-Brexit trading arrangements in Northern Ireland, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said on Thursday.

Liz Truss

Political tensions have risen in the U.K. province after elections last week saw pro-Irish nationalists Sinn Fein become the biggest party for the first time.

But pro-U.K. unionists, who believe the Brexit deal's Northern Ireland Protocol is driving a wedge between the province and mainland Great Britain, are refusing to join the executive in Belfast until it is changed.

Ms. Truss spoke to European Commission Vice-President Maros Sefcovic, telling him that the situation was "a matter of internal peace and security for the United Kingdom. If the EU does not "show the requisite flexibility to help solve those issues, then as a responsible government we would have no choice but to act," she said.

London has repeatedly said it is prepared to trigger the protocol's Article 16 suspension clause unless the deal it signed up to is changed – a move the EU has warned could lead to a wider trade war.

# Qatar Emir visits Iran over nuclear talks

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TEHRAN

Qatar's ruler met Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in Tehran on Thursday, state television reported, as talks falter on bringing Washington back into a 2015 nuclear deal between Tehran and major powers.

The one-day visit by the Emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, came as the European Union's coordinator for the nuclear talks, Enrique Mora, held a second day of meetings in Tehran with Iran's chief negotiator Ali Bagheri.

Qatar, a close U.S. ally, has added the Iran nuclear dispute to the list of diplomatic hotspots where it has sought to play a behind-the-scenes mediating role, and the Emir has called for more dialogue to settle the stand-off.

# UN mulls investigation into Russian war crimes

## 'Scale of killings in Ukraine shocking'

REUTERS
GENEVA

The UN Human Rights Council will decide on Thursday whether to launch an investigation into alleged abuses by Russian troops in the Kyiv area that Ukraine says amount to war crimes.

A resolution brought by Ukraine and supported by more than 50 other countries would mandate a newly-formed Commission of Inquiry to investigate events in the regions around Kyiv that were temporarily held by Russian troops. It would prepare a report by early next year.

"The areas...which have been under Russian occupation in late February and March have experienced the most gruesome human rights violations on the European continent in decades," Emine Dzhaparova, Ukraine's First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, told the council.

A spokesman for the Russian mission to the United Nations in Geneva did not provide an immediate comment on the possibility of a war crimes investigation.

### 1,000 bodies found

At the same session, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, said there were many examples of possible war crimes in the country since the Russian invasion, saying that 1,000 bodies had been recovered so far in the Kyiv region.

"The scale of unlawful killings, including indication of summary executions in areas to the north of Kyiv, is shocking," she said.

# 'Cases rising only in Africa, Americas'

ASSOCIATED PRESS
GENEVA

The number of new COVID-19 cases reported worldwide has continued to fall except in the Americas and Africa, the World Health Organization said.

In its weekly pandemic report released on Tuesday, the WHO said about 3.5 million new cases and more than 25,000 deaths were reported globally, which respectively represent decreases of 12% and 25%. The downward trend in reported infections began in March, although many countries have dismantled their testing and surveillance programmes, making an accurate count of cases extremely difficult.

The WHO said there were only two regions where reported infections increased: the Americas, by 14%, and Africa, by 12%. Cases remained stable in the Western Pacific and fell everywhere else, it said.

# N. Korea test-fires missiles amid virus outbreak

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SEOUL

North Korea fired three short-range ballistic missiles toward the sea on Thursday, its neighbours said, in the latest of a series of weapons demonstrations this year that came just hours after it confirmed its first case of the coronavirus since the pandemic began.

The launches could underscore North Korea's determination to press ahead with its efforts to expand its arsenal despite the virus outbreak to rally support behind the leader, Kim Jong-un, and keep up pressure on its rivals amid long-dormant nuclear diplomacy.

Thursday's launches were the North's first weapons fired since the inauguration of new conservative South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol on Tuesday.

The North Korean nuclear threat will likely top the agenda when Mr. Yoon meets visiting U.S. President Joe Biden in Seoul next week. Both South Korea and Japan condemned the launches. The missiles plunged into the waters between North Korea's eastern coast and outside of Japan's exclusive economic zone, Japanese Defence Minister Nobuo Kishi said.

South Korea's military said it boosted its readiness and surveillance while maintaining close coordination with the U.S. It called on the North to immediately halt its repeated missile firings.

Earlier on Thursday, North Korean state media confirmed the country's first COVID-19 infections as Mr. Kim ordered nationwide lockdowns to slow the spread of the virus.

# Palestinians honour slain journalist

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
RAMALLAH, PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

Thousands of Palestinians on Thursday honoured Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh at a memorial service in the occupied West Bank, a day after she was shot dead during an Israeli Army raid.

Israel and the Palestinians have traded blame over the killing of Palestinian-American Abu Akleh, 51 during clashes in the Jenin refugee camp.

The United States, European Union and United Nations have backed calls for a full investigation into what Al Jazeera labelled a deliberate killing "in cold blood", but the Palestinian Authority has rejected holding a joint probe with Israel. The slain journalist was given what was described as a full state memorial at the Ramallah compound of President Mahmud Abbas.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to notify the General Public that my client is intending to Purchase the below mentioned property from **Sri. Dr. K. Sriram and Smt. K. Ganga**, any person/s having any rights, title, claim or interest in the said property by way of sale, inheritance, possession, succession, mortgage, lien, lease, gift or otherwise however, in respect to the same, shall intimate the objection in writing to the undersigned with supporting documents within **FIFTEEN days** from the date of publication this notice or else any such claims by anyone shall not be considered and shall be deemed to have been waived and abandoned. And my client shall proceed to conclude the negotiations and no claims shall be entertained thereafter.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All the piece and parcel of property bearing Municipal no. **New 31, (Old no.112),** BBMP PID no. 58-29-31, Ward no. 58, measuring East to West 40' ft., and North to South 526' totally measuring 2572.5 Sq. ft., with old house constructed RCC roof and mosaic flooring doors and windows are made with Jungle Wood, with built-up area about 2800 sq. ft., situated at **34th B Cross Road, Jayanagar IV Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore** and is bounded by: **East : Site no. 111, West : Road, North : Road, South : Site no. 113.**

**N. Raghu Veera Prasad** Advocate
No. 19, 6th Cross, J P Nagar II Phase
Bangalore - 560 078. M : 9972728379

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**My client SRI. MANJUNATHA .S, S/o. Late Sri. Sreenivasappa .V has entered into an agreement of sale in respect of the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration with its owners 1) Sri. PARESH C. CHOWDAPPA, S/o. Sri. Chikka Chowdappa. Residing at No. 1694, HSR Layout, 1st Sector, Bangalore 560 102 and his brothers viz., 2) Sri. PRASHANTH CHOWDAPPA, 3) Sri. RAJESH .C, 4) Smt. LAKSHMAMMA, W/o. G. Chowdappa and 5) Sri. ABILASH .A, S/o. Sri. Ashwathappa .G, the above named 2 to 5 are residing at Venkatapura Village, Vokkaleri Hobli, Kolar District.**

**If any person/s having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed further for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.**

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

**All that piece and parcel of the residential converted Property bearing No. 46/1, (Old No. 46) having BBMP Khatha No.367, measuring 4356 Sq. Ft., having converted vide Conversion Order No.ALN(SB)(BH)SR/ 36/2015-16 dated 04-06-2016, situated at Chikka Thogur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, and bounded on : East by : Road, West by : Road, North by : Vendors' property in Sy. No. 46/1, South by : Road**

**MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES**
**K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY, ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR, Advocates, # 96, 1st Floor, 1st Main, 4th Cross, Maruthi Nagar, Madiwala, Bangalore - 68 Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832. BANGALORE, DATE : 12-05-2022**

**GOVT OF MAHARASHTRA**
**Executive Engineer, Public Works (South) Division, Pune- 411 001**
**Phone No. 020/26121765**
**Web- www.mahapwd.com & e-mail- integratedpune.ee@mahapwd.com**
**E-TENDER NOTICE N0.09 FOR 2022-2023**

Sealed Online **B-1/C Tender Format** Tender _1_ is/are Invited By The Executive Engineer, Public Works (South) Division, Pune- 411 001.(Telephone No. 26121765) Invites bids for Given works from Registered as well as Unregistered contractor in **B-1 Tender Format**. As per Maharashtra Government, Public Work Department G.R. No. CAT/2017/Pra.Kra-08/Bidg-2, dt. 27/9/2018 and Public Work Deparment Matralaya Mumbai Circular No. CAT/2017/Pra.Kra-08/Bidg-2, dt. 22/10/2018 & 19/01/2021.

Bids document can be downloaded from website **https://mahatenders.gov.in.** Executive Engineer reserves all rights to accept or reject bids without assigning any reasons. Conditional bids will not be accepted.

The detailed Tender Notice can be is available on
1. Web- **www.mahapwd.gov.in** (Only Tender Notice)
2. **https://mahatenders.gov.in** (Details of Tender Notice)
(Any changes in the NIT will be Corrigendum's published on above website)

**Sd/- Executive Engineer,**
**Public Work(South) Division, Pune 411 001.**
**DGIPR/2022-2023/599**

**Government of India (Min. Of Railways)**
**Research Designs and Standards Organisation**
**Manak Nagar, Lucknow - 226 011**

**Open E -Tender Notice No. TST_TC_CAL_2022_01**

Open E- Tender No. TST_TC_CAL_2022_01 is invited by Director/Testing/Lab, Testing Directorate, RDSO, Manak Nagar, Lucknow on behalf of President of India for following Works:

| Description of Work | Approx. Cost (Rs.) | EMD Money (Rs.) |
|---|---|---|
| "Calibration of Sensors from Outside agency" on Open Tender basis available in Testing Directorate, R.D.S.O., Manak Nagar, Lucknow On Open tender basis for five years." | Rs. 17,04,215/ | Rs. 34,100/- |
| | Cost of Tender Form: NIL | |

- Manual offers are not allowed against this tender.
- The tenderer must have Class-III Digital Signature certificate & must have registered on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer can participate in e-tendering.
- Tender Closing Date & Time:**15.06.2022** up to **15:00 Hrs**.
- Tender Opening Date and Time: **15.06.2022** at **15:30 hrs**.
- The tender can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in**.
- Amendments/Corrigendum, if any, would be hosted on the website only.

**Director/Testing/Lab/RDSO/Lucknow**

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**
**DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**
**CMG, SDSC - SHAR SRIHARIKOTA - 524124**

**Brief E-TENDER NOTICE / CORRIGENDUM-A**

No:SHAR:CMG:CIVIL:MAINT:E-PT-01 (A)/22-23 Dt: 12.05.2022

"**Term Contract for civil works @ PHC-I & II areas**" (T/C-22-002, Est. cost ₹75 Lakhs); "**AMC for civil & PH works @ SMN & PNN colonies**" (T/C-22-003, Est. cost ₹54.58 Lakhs). "**DI pipeline extension @ WTP-PNN colony**" (T/C-22-004, Est. cost ₹9.53 Lakhs); **Sale period extended upto 26.05.2022**. Interested tenderers may visit **www.isro.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** for details.

Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG/ SDSC SHAR

**JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED, JODHPUR**
(MATERIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT WING)
NEW POWER HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003
PHONE: (0291) 2742223 FAX: (0291) 2746539

**SHORT TERM E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

E-Procurement Tender is invited for purchase of 11/0.433, 40 KVA , Outdoor type, Energy Efficiency Level-1 (Star 1-Rating), Three Phase Aluminium Wound Distribution Transformers With LV Bushing Cover Cum Metering & Protection Box having provision of metering on LV side Under TN-1815(UBN:JVV2223GLOB00066).

Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Bid Security, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl and also at http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in

**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)**
Raj.Samvad/C/22/1729 बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नंबर 1800 180 6045

**दिल्ली प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय**
**DELHI TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY**
(Formerly Delhi College of Engineering)
(Estd. by Govt. of NCT of Delhi vide Act 6 of 2009)
Shahbad Daulatpur, Bawana Road, Delhi 110 042

**ADMISSION NOTICE FOR B. DES. & M. DES. PROGRAMME 2022-23**

Delhi Technological University invites applications for its **Bachelor of Design Programme** (B. Des.) & **Master of Design Programme** (M. Des.) for the academic session 2022-23. Application form for admission is to be filled on-line w. e. f. 20.05.22 (Friday) from 10:00 AM to 20.06.2022 (Monday) 12:00 Midnight through the University's website: **www.dtu.ac.in**. Admission Brochures may be downloaded from the University website **www.dtu.ac.in** for more details.

**Sd/-**
**Registrar**

**INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION**
(An autonomous Body of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)
**P.O. NEW FOREST, DEHRADUN - 248 006**

**Notice calling for EXPRESSION OF INTEREST for carrying out Studies for Centre For Forest Policy Research**

ICFRE invites expression of interest from prospective Individuals/ Organizations/NGOs for undertaking Policy Research Studies on 03 areas/topics. The Individuals/Organizations/NGOs may opt for one or more policy research studies based on their expertise and submit proposals. The details of Policy Research Studies on the 03 subjects alongwith format for submission of proposal, Terms of Reference (ToR) is available at ICFRE website **www.icfre.org**. The application in prescribed format should be accompanied with a Demand Draft for Rs. 500/- drawn in favor of **Account Officer, Policy Research Studies, ICFRE** and should be delivered at the address below **latest by 15.30 hrs on 15.06.2022**.

**Assistant Director General (Education & RB)**
Indian council of Forestry Research & Education,
P.O. New Forest, Dehra Dun - 248 006
Telephone: 0135-2758348, E-mail : **adg_edu@icfre.org**

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**JHRKHAND STATE BEVERAGES CORPORATION LTD. RANCHI**
**(A GOVT. OF JHARKHAND UNDERTAKING)**
**Corporate Identification No :-U51228JH2010SGC014519, TIN No – 20520108277**
**E-mail :- jsbcl.jharkhand@gmail.comUtpad Bhawan, Ground Floor,**
**Near New Police Station, Kanke Road, Ranchi - 834008**

**E-Tender Notice No :- JSBCL/14** **Date- 12.05.2022**

**VERY SHORT NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**

**E-TENDER FOR EMPANELMENT OF PLACEMENT AGENCY**

E- Tenders are invited for empanelment of placement agency for supply of manpower for retail vending shops of JSBCL in the designated two zones within the state of Jharkhand through e-tender process. Detailed tender document is available at https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in & http://jsbcl.in Interested companies/firms/parties may visit the website for more details.

**Important dates**

| S.N. | Particulars | Date | Time |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Date of Uploading of tender document on website. | 12/05/2022 | |
| 2 | Starting Date for submission of E-Tender | 13/05/2022 | |
| 3 | Last date/closing date for submission of E-Tender | 20/05/2022 | 04:00 P.M. |
| 4 | Last date for submission of document (Hard copy) in the JSBCL office. | 20/05/2022 | 06:00 P.M. |
| 5 | Online opening of Technical Bid. | 21/05/2022 | 04:00 P.M. |

**Note :-**

1) For details of tender terms & conditions please visit website https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in & http://jsbcl.in from the dates mentioned above.
2) Bidders has to submit their bids online through https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in and physical copy of the same is to be submitted in JSBCL (HQ) at Ranchi.

**Sd/-**
**General Manager (Operation),**
**Jharkhand State Beverages Corporation Ltd.**
**Jharkhand, Ranchi**

**PR 269834 Excise(22-23).D**

**MARKET WATCH**

| | 12-05-2022 | % CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Sensex | 52,930 | -2.14 |
| US Dollar | 77.50 | -0.32 |
| Gold | 50,797 | 0.29 |
| Brent oil | 107.53 | 0.35 |

**NIFTY 50**

| | PRICE | CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Adani Ports | 713.30 | -46.60 |
| Apollo Hosp | 3580.85 | -98.80 |
| Asian Paints | 3039.95 | -13.70 |
| Axis Bank | 649.65 | -22.70 |
| Bajaj Auto | 3585.00 | -27.85 |
| Bajaj Finserv | 12850.70 | -479.10 |
| Bajaj Finance | 5593.40 | -213.60 |
| Bharti Airtel | 705.40 | -17.45 |
| BPCL | 339.95 | -7.15 |
| Britannia Ind | 3216.85 | -43.00 |
| Cipla | 920.75 | -16.85 |
| Coal India | 167.05 | -2.80 |
| Divis Lab | 4233.40 | -60.40 |
| Dr Reddys Lab | 3880.00 | -4.05 |
| Eicher Motors | 2384.65 | -4.50 |
| Grasim Ind | 1485.85 | -49.50 |
| HCL Tech | 1059.40 | -1.50 |
| HDFC | 2150.45 | -68.65 |
| HDFC Bank | 1303.05 | -45.55 |
| HDFC Life | 547.25 | -16.30 |
| Hero MotoCorp | 2401.20 | -69.10 |
| Hindalco | 405.85 | -16.70 |
| Hind Unilever | 2138.80 | -24.70 |
| ICICI Bank | 695.80 | -18.40 |
| Indusind Bank | 869.90 | -53.45 |
| Infosys | 1508.80 | -17.95 |
| ITC | 252.90 | -2.75 |
| JSW Steel | 624.80 | -24.15 |
| Kotak Bank | 1760.90 | -49.05 |
| L&T | 1526.15 | -44.65 |
| M&M | 865.25 | -21.80 |
| Maruti Suzuki | 7253.65 | -142.80 |
| Nestle India Ltd. | 16220.00 | -292.40 |
| NTPC | 148.55 | -4.00 |
| ONGC | 156.50 | -2.10 |
| PowerGrid Corp | 235.90 | -3.30 |
| Reliance Ind | 2399.40 | -49.90 |
| SBI Life | 1060.60 | -26.55 |
| State Bank | 462.65 | -13.90 |
| Shree Cement | 22627.40 | -754.90 |
| Sun Pharma | 850.00 | -4.80 |
| Tata Consumer Products Ltd. | 738.05 | -6.05 |
| Tata Motors | 372.30 | -15.85 |
| Tata Steel | 1117.70 | -48.00 |
| TCS | 3408.65 | -3.35 |
| Tech Mahindra | 1212.80 | -11.65 |
| Titan | 2048.55 | -66.15 |
| UltraTech Cement | 6185.45 | -154.75 |
| UPL | 764.95 | -27.20 |
| Wipro | 473.80 | 1.90 |

**EXCHANGE RATES**

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 12

| CURRENCY | TT BUY | TT SELL |
|---|---|---|
| US Dollar | 77.22 | 77.54 |
| Euro | 80.57 | 80.91 |
| British Pound | 94.25 | 94.65 |
| Japanese Yen (100) | 59.95 | 60.20 |
| Chinese Yuan | 11.39 | 11.44 |
| Swiss Franc | 77.53 | 77.86 |
| Singapore Dollar | 55.37 | 55.60 |
| Canadian Dollar | 59.23 | 59.48 |
| Malaysian Ringgit | 17.57 | 17.67 |
| Australian Dollar | 53.11 | 53.33 |

Source: Indian Bank

**IN BRIEF**

### Paradeep IPO on May 17, govt. to sell entire stake

MUMBAI

Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. (PPL) announced unveiling of its initial public offering (IPO) on May 17 in the price band of ₹39-42 per share of a face value of ₹10 each. The IPO will close on May 19 and the government will offload its entire stake in the company, according to PPL.

### Bharti, Jio drive user base to 116.6 cr. in March

NEW DELHI

Net subscriber additions by Bharti Airtel and Reliance Jio increased the overall telecom user base to more than 116.69 crore in March 2022, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) said in its monthly report on Thursday. Bharti Airtel and Reliance Jio led new customer additions in both mobile telephony as well as fixed line services segment in March. PTI

# 'GDP growth to be almost 8% this fiscal'

## Budget's capex-driven fiscal path to help economy weather inflationary headwinds: Finance Ministry

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The capex-driven fiscal path laid out in the Union Budget will help the economy weather inflationary headwinds and post almost 8% real growth in 2022-23, the Finance Ministry said in its monthly economic review on Thursday.

The ministry's GDP growth projection is faster than the 7.2% pace forecast by the RBI last month.

Citing the International Monetary Fund's 8.2% forecast, the ministry said that India would be the fastest growing economy in 2022-23 and added the 'strong growth in economic activity' in April lent 'credence' to this projection. This was reflected in the 'robust performance of e-way bill generation, toll collection, electricity consumption, PMI manufacturing and PMI services' as well as record GST collection for March transactions, it asserted.

**Stronger core:** 'A narrowing in spreads between U.S. 10-year treasury and 10-year G-Sec yields augurs well'. •REUTERS

While the yields on government securities rose to 7.11% in April, the spread between the U.S. 10-year treasury yield and the Indian 10-year G-sec yield had narrowed to 421 basis points (bps) in April, from 494 bps in February, indicating a strengthening in India's macroeconomic fundamentals, the Finance Ministry said.

**'FPI outflow pressure'**

The ministry blamed the 'steadily declining' forex reserves due to 'pressure from outflow of foreign portfolio investments (FPI) responding to monetary tightening by central banks in advanced economies'. However, the quantum of outflow in April was much lower than the previous three months, it pointed out.

India's forex reserves, which stood at $597.7 billion on April 29, could provide import cover of about 11 months for financing investment and consumption in the country. "Given the rising levels of profitability and strengthening balance sheets of the corporate sector, FPI inflows are expected to return to positive territory," the ministry said.

Noting that imported inflation, especially higher global prices for crude and edible oil would now significantly impact India's inflation outlook, the ministry said that government measures to keep the prices of these commodities in check along with the recent increase in policy rates by the RBI were expected to temper inflationary pressures in the economy.

"If global inflation does not sufficiently decline despite aggressive monetary tightening... it points at the persistence of supply-demand imbalances that only coordinated actions of world leaders can resolve," the ministry concluded.

# India's industrial output expanded 1.9% in March

## Pace stayed below 2% for a fifth month

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India's industrial output grew by 1.9% in March, only marginally higher than the 1.7% growth recorded in February, with manufacturing growth staying weak at just 0.9%, just a tad better than the 0.8% recorded in the preceding month.

This is the fifth month in a row that the Index of Industrial Production growth has been lower than 2%. Electricity generation and mining output grew 6.1% and 4.5%, respectively.

On a sequential basis, however, industrial production was up 12.5% in March from the February 2022 levels, as per quick estimates released by the National Statistical Office. While primary and consumer goods' production rose month-on-month, this was largely offset by a dip in the expansion rates of capital, infrastructure and intermediate goods, noted ICRA chief economist Aditi Nayar.

Production of consumer durables continued to shrink for the sixth month in a row, contracting 3.2% in March, while consumer non-durables' output fell for the third consecutive month, dropping 5%. Infrastructure and construction goods reported a healthy 7.3% uptick, and primary goods also rose 5.7%. Capital goods and intermediate goods, however, grew only 0.7% and 0.6%, respectively. This was the slowest pace of growth for capital goods in three months.

"The capital goods numbers are disappointing," said Madan Sabnavis, Bank of Baroda chief economist. "Clearly, the investment cycle has not yet taken off and will be deferred again due to the war situation and uncertainty," he added. The persistent decline in consumer durables and non-durables reflects the absence of a pick-up in consumption, and hopes of a recovery are thin as rising prices will push back consumption further, he pointed out.

CARE Ratings chief economist Rajani Sinha said, "Industrial output trends remained lacklustre; manufacturing, with the biggest share in industrial growth, has remained weak".

**'Consumption must rise'**

"For India's economy to recover, it is very critical for consumption expenditure to start improving, which in turn will help improve capacity utilisation levels and start the private investment cycle," she said, while noting that higher inflation will dampen spending further.

Ms. Nayar said the outlook for the coming months was not too bright thanks to the surge in global commodity prices. "Protracted tensions could also impact corporate profits and dampen the investment climate, impacting the output of capital goods and infra/construction goods.

"Besides, the supply chain implications of continued lockdowns in China along with the geopolitical tensions will continue to impart downside risks for output of sectors... dependent on key raw materials provided by Russia, Ukraine or China," she warned.

# Tata Sons names Scoot's Wilson as Air India CEO

## Position vacant since Tata's AI takeover

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Tata Sons on Thursday announced the appointment of Campbell Wilson as CEO and MD of Air India (AI).

New Zealand-born Mr. Wilson (50) is the CEO of Scoot – the wholly owned low-cost arm of Singapore Airlines. He will step down from his current role on June 15.

The AI board has approved the appointment, subject to approvals.

The development comes after Tata's decision to hire Turkish Airlines CEO Ilker Ayci for the top job created a stir over his reported proximity to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Mr. Ayci had turned down the offer a month later.

Campbell Wilson

The position has been lying vacant since the government handed over the ownership of the airline on January 27 to the Tatas.

Mr. Wilson has more than 26 years of experience in the aviation industry across full-service and budget carriers. Interestingly, ex-Vistara CEO Leslie Thng, who moved to Singapore Airlines earlier this year, will replace Mr. Wilson at Scoot.

# Rupee hits second record low in a week, Sensex declines 2.1%

## 'Oil prices, the war, U.S. Fed tightening driving sentiment'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The rupee plunged to a fresh low in less than a week on Thursday, as elevated crude oil prices and quickening inflation spurred concern over the outlook for the currency.

The rupee fell to a new low of 77.63 against the U.S. dollar in intraday trade before recovering slightly to close at 77.50. The previous lowest close was 77.44 reported on May 9.

"Compared to May 9, today's closing was the record low," said Sugandha Sachdeva, vice-president - Commodity and Currency Research, Religare Broking Ltd. A slew of factors had conspired to push the domestic currency on a downward trajectory, she added.

Elevated crude prices, global uncertainty amid the war in Ukraine, mounting inflation and prospects of an aggressive monetary tightening path by the U.S. Fed have been major headwinds for the domestic currency.

Also, "relentless foreign fund outflows from equities and the greenback climbing to a two-decade high have also been key catalysts behind the recent slump in the... exchange rate," she said.

The rupee is expected to trade in the 76.80-78.50 range in the near-to-medium term, she added.

Stock indices too saw a sell-off on Thursday for the fourth consecutive day, led by banking and financial stocks. The S&P BSE Sensex fell 1,158 points, or 2.14%, to 52,930.31. Stocks that slid the most were IndusInd Bank (5.82%) and Tata Steel (4.13%). The NSE Nifty too declined 359.10 points, or 2.22%, to 15,808.

# Tata Motors Q4 loss tapers to ₹992 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Tata Motors Ltd. reported consolidated net loss for the fourth quarter ended March 31 narrowed to ₹992 crore from ₹7,585 crore in the year-earlier period helped by a recovery in all of the automobile maker's various businesses, Group CFO P.B. Balaji said.

Tata Motors reported a lower revenue of ₹77,857 crore compared with ₹87,772 crore. For the financial year, the firm reported a net loss of ₹11,308 crore compared with a net loss of ₹13,395 crore a year earlier. Consolidated revenue rose to ₹2,75,235 crore (₹2,46,972 crore).

# L&T Q4 net profit rises 10% to ₹3,621 crore

## Board recommends dividend of ₹22

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Larsen & Toubro reported fourth-quarter consolidated net profit rose 10% to ₹3,621 crore despite a spike in commodity prices and supply-chain disruptions caused by the war in Ukraine.

Consolidated revenue rose 10% year-on-year to ₹52,851 crore. International sales of ₹17,550 crore constituted 33% of total revenue.

For the financial year ended March 31, it posted a consolidated net profit after tax (excluding exceptional items and discontinued operations) at ₹8,572 crore, registering a robust growth of 23% over the previous year, according to a press release.

For the year ended March 31, consolidated revenue rose 15% to ₹1,56,521 crore.

This was due to strong execution in project businesses, said whole-time director and CFO R. Shankar Raman.

The board of directors of the company have recommended a final dividend of ₹22 per equity share.

# 'Forex reserves decline $28 bn in Sept.-March'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

India's foreign exchange reserves dropped $28.05 billion to $607.31 billion at the end of March this year from $635.36 billion at the end of September 2021, according to the Reserve Bank's half-yearly report on management of forex reserves.

The net forward asset of RBI in the domestic foreign exchange market stood at $65.79 billion at the end of March. At the end of December, foreign exchange reserves' cover of imports (on balance of payments basis) declined to 13.1 months from 14.6 months as at end-September 2021.

# Google to bring Pixel 6a smartphone to India

## Phone is priced at $449

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Google on Thursday announced that it would bring its newly introduced Pixel 6a phone to India.

"We're so thrilled to announce that the Pixel 6a is coming to India later this year," Google India tweeted.

The phone was announced at company's annual developer conference Google I/O on Wednesday.

"Our latest A-series phone, Google Pixel 6a, gives you more of what you want – for less than you'd expect. Pixel 6a is packed with the same powerful brains, Google Tensor, and many of the must-have features as our premium phones Pixel 6 and Pixel 6 Pro – at a lower price of $449," Soniya Jobanputra, Director of Product Management at Google, said in a blogpost.

The company also announced adding 24 new languages to Google Translate, including eight Indian languages.

# Ford makes U-turn, shelves EV export plan

REUTERS

Ford Motor Co. said on Thursday it had dropped plans to make electric vehicles (EVs) in India for exports, while it explores options for its two factories in the country that stopped production last year.

The U.S. carmaker said in February it would make EVs in India and also got approval for the Indian government's $3.5-billion production-linked incentive scheme for making clean-fuel vehicles.

"After careful review, we have decided to no longer pursue EV manufacturing for exports from any of the Indian plants," a spokes person for Ford India said.

# SPORT

# Bolt helped me become a better athlete: Gatlin

## 2004 Olympics 100m champion asks Indians to take inspiration from Neeraj Chopra

**ATHLETICS**

ASHWIN ACHAL
BENGALURU

The rivalry between sprinters Usain Bolt and Justin Gatlin captivated audiences around the world. While their competition on the track was fierce, the duo maintained a healthy respect for each other.

Gatlin, the 2004 Athens Olympics 100m champion, stated that Bolt pushed him to become a better athlete.

"After we left the sport, there was a realisation that Bolt helped me become a better athlete, and vice-versa. Bolt even went on record to say that I pushed him (to get better), especially at a point when he felt like the sport did not excite him.

"It was exciting for me to go up against Bolt. Most other athletes may have feared Bolt's consistent success on the world stage, but this only made me want to grow as an athlete and as a person.

**Blessing in disguise:** Gatlin says the suspensions motivated him to stay on as an active sprinter for long. •K. MURALI KUMAR

"It made me work harder," said Gatlin, the TCS World 10K event ambassador, here on Thursday.

Gatlin stated that the two doping bans imposed on him turned out to be a "blessing and a curse". Being forced to sit out motivated Gatlin to extend his career for an impressively long period of time. The American only retired earlier this year, at the age of 40.

> **Bolt's consistent success made me want to grow as an athlete and as a person**
>
> GATLIN

"I think about it (the doping bans) – those are the 'what ifs' in my life. But I also feel that if I didn't have to serve those suspensions, I might not have had the motivation to stay on as an active sprinter for as long as I did.

"I may have quit after the 2008 Olympics. So it (doping bans) was a gift and a curse. It was a gift, as it showed my longevity, and dedication to the sport," Gatlin said.

Gatlin called on young Indian track and field athletes to draw inspiration from Tokyo Olympics javelin throw champion Neeraj Chopra.

"I've talked to many Indian athletes through social media. I tell them that if you use every resource at your disposal to try and achieve your dream, you won't feel like you've let yourself down. Do not ever think that you cannot be successful because of where you come from.

India now has a javelin throw Olympic champion (Neeraj Chopra). Four years ago, everyone in this room would have thought this was an impossible dream. But now, Neeraj is an inspiration to every athlete in this country," Gatlin, a four-time gold medalist at the World Championships, said.

# Shuttler Jerlin, golfer Diksha clinch gold

**DEAFLYMPICS**

SPORTS BUREAU

J. Jerlin Anika beat Austria's K. Neudolt to win the women's singles badminton title, and complete a treble, in the Summer Deaflympics at Caxias do Sul in Brazil on Wednesday.

The Madurai girl had claimed the mixed doubles crown with Abhinav Sharma and been part of the squad that won the team title.

Jerlin.

Diksha.

In golf, Diksha Dagar outplayed American Ashlyn Grace 5 and 4 to bag gold and improve upon her silver at the 2017 edition.

# Kadhe and Manafov exit in last eight

SPORTS BUREAU

Arjun Kadhe, seeded second with Vladyslav Manafov, lost 6-4, 3-6, 11-9 to Alexander Shevchenko and Denis Yevseyev in the doubles quarterfinals of the $53,120 ATP Challenger in Shymkent, Kazakhstan.

In the €45,730 Zagreb Challenger in Croatia, Sriram Balaji and Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan were beaten 2-6, 7-6(4), [11-9] in the first round by Zvonimir Ballbic and Alexander Donski.

**Other results:**

**$25,000 ITF women, Nottingham, Britain: First round:** Freya Christie (GBr) bt Ankita Raina 6-0, 6-2. **Doubles:** Rutuja Bhosale & Ankita Raina bt Lauryn John-Baptiste (GBr) & Alice Robbe (Fra) 6-4, 6-2.

**$25,000 ITF men, Monastir, Tunisia: First round:** Aziz Dougaz (Tun) & Akira Santillan (Aus) bt Pranassh Babu & Amaan Siddiqui 6-0, 6-2.

**$15,000 ITF men, Valdoreix, Spain: Second round:** Daniel Rincon (Esp) bt Manish Sureshkumar 6-0, 6-4.

# Sams leads the attack as Mumbai Indians crushes Super Kings

Meredith, Kartikeya chip in with two wickets each while Dhoni fights a lone battle; Tilak anchors the chase as Rohit's men knock out the defending champion

IPL 2022

AYAN ACHARYA
MUMBAI

Before toss on Thursday, the sound system at the Wankhede Stadium played 'Believer' by the band Imagine Dragons on loop. More than three hours and 185 balls later, Mumbai Indians had sucked the belief out of Chennai Super Kings' camp by bringing the curtains down on its IPL 2022 campaign with a five-wicket win.

Batting first, M.S. Dhoni made 36 while the rest could muster only 46. CSK needed MI's generous helping of 15 extras to limp to 97, its second-lowest total in IPL history. Dhoni's desperation after an abject batting display was evident when off the first ball of MI's chase, he went up for a lbw review despite the ball clearing pitching outside leg stump.

Mukesh Choudhary briefly raised hopes with his three for 23. But Tilak Varma and Hrithik Shokeen showed MI a glimpse of the promising future by stemming the rot with a 48-run fifth-wicket stand that eventually paved the way for an easy win in the end.

**Key contributors:** Sams broke CSK's back with a triple strike before Tilak stemmed the rot in Mumbai Indians' chase to take his team home. •SPORTZPICS/IPL

### Fiery opening spell

Earlier, Daniel Sams (3/16) exerted his impact in a fiery opening spell. His first over wasn't short on drama either. Sams struck with his second ball when he hit Devon Conway's pad with a length delivery. The ball appeared to be missing the leg stump, but Conway couldn't review it since the DRS was unavailable due to technical issues.

Moeen Ali, who has a proven weakness against the short ball, was next. Sams' first ball to Moeen was on a good length and pushed to point. The next, short of a good length, was called a wide. Sams then dragged the length further back and targeted Moeen with a bouncer that cramped him for room. Moeen, in two minds, ended up offering a simple catch.

Sams then had Ruturaj Gaikwad strangled down leg; a tame dismissal for someone who had just played an eye-catching cover drive off Jasprit Bumrah in the previous over. In between Sams' onslaught, Bumrah got Robin Uthappa out lbw with a good length ball. Uthappa, much like Conway, was denied a review because of the DRS outage.

After Sams, it was Riley Meredith's (2/27) turn to catalyse CSK's meltdown. He had Ambati Rayudu caught behind to reduce Chennai to 32 for five at the end of the PowerPlay.

Dhoni enthralled the crowd with a couple of sixes. But he was largely just a mute spectator, watching his team's free fall from the other end.

Two teams with nine IPL titles between them are now out of the playoffs' contention. That Chennai's meek surrender came four days after what Dhoni called "a perfect game" for CSK, speaks volumes about the inconsistency that marred the campaigns of both these champion outfits.

### Next assignment

**CSK:** May 15 vs. **GT**
Wankhede, 3.30 p.m.

**MI:** May 17 vs. **SRH**
Wankhede, 7.30 p.m.

SCOREBOARD

**CHENNAI SUPER KINGS**
Ruturaj Gaikwad c Kishan b Sams 7 *(6b, 1x4)*, Devon Conway lbw b Sams 0 *(1b)*, Moeen Ali c Shokeen b Sams 0 *(2b)*, Robin Uthappa lbw b Bumrah 1 *(6b)*, Ambati Rayudu c Kishan b Meredith 10 *(14b, 2x4)*, M.S. Dhoni (not out) 36 *(33b, 4x4, 2x6)*, Shivam Dube c Kishan b Meredith 10 *(9b, 1x4)*, Dwayne Bravo c Tilak b Kartikeya 12 *(15b, 1x6)*, Simarjeet Singh lbw b Kartikeya 2 *(3b)*, Maheesh Theekshana c Rohit b Ramandeep 0 *(3b)*, Mukesh Choudhary run out 4 *(4b, 1x4)*; Extras (lb-3, w-12): 15; Total (in 16 overs): 97.

**FALL OF WICKETS**
1-1 (Conway, 0.2 overs), 2-2 (Moeen, 0.4), 3-5 (Uthappa, 1.4), 4-17 (Ruturaj, 4.1), 5-29 (Rayudu, 5.4), 6-39 (Dube, 7.3), 7-78 (Bravo, 12.2), 8-80 (Simarjeet, 12.5), 9-81 (Theekshana, 13.3).

**MUMBAI INDIANS BOWLING**
Sams 4-0-16-3, Bumrah 3-1-12-1, Meredith 3-0-27-2, Shokeen 2-0-12-0, Kartikeya 3-0-22-2, Ramandeep 1-0-5-1

**MUMBAI INDIANS**
Ishan Kishan c Dhoni b Mukesh 6 *(5b, 1x4)*, Rohit Sharma c Dhoni b Simarjeet 18 *(14b, 4x4)*, Daniel Sams lbw b Mukesh 1 *(6b)*, Tilak Varma (not out) 34 *(32b, 4x4)*, Tristan Stubbs lbw b Mukesh 0 *(2b)*, Hrithik Shokeen b Moeen 18 *(23b, 2x4)*, Tim David (not out) 16 *(7b, 2x6)*; Extras (lb-1, w-9): 10; Total (for five wkts. in 14.5 overs): 103.

**FALL OF WICKETS**
1-6 (Kishan, 0.5), 2-30 (Rohit, 3.3), 3-33 (Sams, 4.3), 4-33 (Stubbs, 4.5), 5-81 (Shokeen, 12.4).

**SUPER KINGS BOWLING**
Mukesh 4-0-23-3, Simarjeet 4-0-22-1, Bravo 2-0-16-0, Theekshana 3-0-24-0, Moeen 1.5-0-17-1.

**Toss:** MI. **MoM:** Sams
*MI won by five wickets with 31 balls to spare.*

**Innings scan**

| CSK | | MI |
|---|---|---|
| 62 | Dots | 45 |
| 9 | Fours | 11 |
| 3 | Sixes | 2 |
| 32/5 | PP | 36/4 |
| 6.06 | RR | 6.94 |

**POINTS TABLE**

| Team | M | W | L | PTS | NRR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gujarat Titans (Q) | 12 | 9 | 3 | 18 | 0.376 |
| Lucknow Super Giants | 12 | 8 | 4 | 16 | 0.385 |
| Rajasthan Royals | 12 | 7 | 5 | 14 | 0.228 |
| Royal Challengers Bangalore | 12 | 7 | 5 | 14 | -0.115 |
| Delhi Capitals | 12 | 6 | 6 | 12 | 0.210 |
| Sunrisers Hyderabad | 11 | 5 | 6 | 10 | -0.031 |
| Kolkata Knight Riders | 12 | 5 | 7 | 10 | -0.057 |
| Punjab Kings | 11 | 5 | 6 | 10 | -0.231 |
| Chennai Super Kings (E) | 12 | 4 | 8 | 8 | -0.181 |
| Mumbai Indians (E) | 12 | 3 | 9 | 6 | -0.613 |

AFTER THE CSK-MI MATCH ON MAY 12 — Q: QUALIFIED; E: ELIMINATED

# On-a-roll Royal Challengers meet limping Punjab Kings

AYAN ACHARYA
MUMBAI

The IPL 2022 playoffs race is heating up, and Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) is in the thick of it.

Faf du Plessis' men come into Friday night's match at the Brabourne Stadium on the back of two successive wins, while three losses in its last five games have left its opponent Punjab Kings (PBKS) playing catch-up.

### Talking point

While Virat Kohli's wretched form – vs SRH, he bagged his third golden duck in the last six T20 innings – is a major talking point, it is the face-off between Dinesh Karthik and Arshdeep Singh that could decide the outcome.

Karthik's scoring rate of 14.68 runs per over (rpo) against pace in IPL 2022 is the highest for any batter with 200-plus runs this season.

While so far in eight innings, Arshdeep's economy rate of 7.25 at the death is the best for a fast bowler with a minimum of 50-plus balls in the last four overs.

Meanwhile, RCB's bowling has been boosted by Josh Hazlewood.

In a combined eight overs against CSK and SRH, Hazlewood conceded only 36 runs while picking up three wickets. He will be up against Liam Livingstone, who is striking at an astounding 210.28 against pacers.

### Spin factor

PBKS, though, has the worst run rate (6.89) of all teams against spin bowling so far, which RCB's spin trio – Wanindu Hasaranga, Shahbaz Ahmed and Glenn Maxwell – could exploit. Maxwell, Royal Challengers' sixth bowler, has picked up four wickets at an economy rate of under 7.

**TODAY'S MATCH**

vs.

BRABOURNE, 7.30 P.M.

HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 29
RCB 13 | PBKS 16

PREVIOUS MEETING
PBKS won by five wickets, 2022

STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD)

### High-scoring venue

The Brabourne Stadium has been a high-scoring venue, with teams going at 9.16 rpo. But it's the bowling might of both teams that could have the final say.

**Sub-plot:** Karthik-Arshdeep face-off could be the flavour of the day. •SPORTZPICS/IPL

# McCullum named England Test coach

REUTERS
LONDON

Former New Zealand captain Brendon McCullum has been appointed head coach of England's Test team, the country's cricket board (ECB) said on Thursday.

"We are delighted to confirm Brendon as England men's Test head coach. It has been a real privilege to get to know him and understand his views and vision for the game," ECB managing director Rob Key said in a statement.

McCullum, 40, is currently in charge of Indian Premier League side Kolkata Knight Riders but the The ECB said he will be in place to start his role when New Zealand visits for a three-Test series starting at Lord's on June 2.

McCullum. •PTI

Former South Africa and India head coach Gary Kirsten had been linked with the role and Paul Collingwood was also considered.

McCullum played the last of his 101 Tests at Christchurch in 2016 against Australia, where he hit the fastest-ever century in the format (54 balls).

# Indian men make semis

## Women bow to Thailand in last eight

**Over the moon:** The Indian men celebrate making the medal bracket. •BADMINTONPHOTO/COURTESY OF BWF

THOMAS & UBER CUP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BANGKOK

The Indian men's badminton team scripted a memorable 3-2 win over Malaysia to enter the semifinals of the Thomas Cup for the first time in 43 years, but the women bowed out after losing 0-3 to Thailand in the Uber Cup here on Thursday.

India is thus assured of at least a bronze at the Thomas Cup.

Up against a team that has won the title five times, the World No. 8 pairing of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, World championships silver medallist K. Srikanth and H.S. Prannoy rose to the occasion.

Earlier, India's dead rubbers were not played in the Uber Cup after Thailand had taken an unbeatable lead.

**The results: Thomas Cup: India bt Malaysia 3-2** [Lakshya Sen lost to Lee Zii Jia 21-23, 9-21; Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty bt Goh Sze Fei & Nur Izzudin 21-19, 21-15; K. Srikanth bt Ng Tze Yong 21-11, 21-17; Krishna Prasad Garaga & Vishnuvardhan Goud Panjala lost to Aaron Chia & Teo Ee Yi 19-21, 17-21; H.S. Prannoy bt Leong Jun Hao 21-13, 21-8].

**Uber Cup: India lost to Thailand 0-3** [P.V. Sindhu lost to Ratchanok Intanon 21-18, 17-21, 12-21; Shruti Mishra & Simran Singhi lost to Jongkolphan Kititharakul & Rawinda Prajongjai 16-21, 13-21; Aakarshi Kashyap lost to Pornpawee Chochuwong 16-21, 11-21; last two dead rubber matches abandoned].

# Anand nominated for FIDE post

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Five-time World chess champion Viswanathan Anand has been nominated for the post of deputy president of FIDE, the governing body for chess, by the incumbent president Arkady Dvorkovich. The elections will be held at the FIDE Congress during the Chess Olympiad slated for July 28 to August 10. The FIDE general assembly and elections have been scheduled on August 7.

"The team (led by Dvorkovich) has done good work for chess in the last few years. I hope that we can work for a bigger and brighter future for chess," said Anand to *The Hindu* before embarking on the Grand Chess Tour to Warsaw (Poland) from May 17 to 24.

# Anamika, Shiksha and Jaismine shine

BOXING WORLDS

SPORTS BUREAU

Three more Indian boxers, Anamika (50kg), Shiksha (54kg) and Jaismine Lamboria (60kg), gave impressive performances to advance to the pre-quarterfinals in the World women's boxing championships at Istanbul on Thursday.

World youth silver medallist Anamika outpunched Romanian Eugenia Anghel 5-0. Anamika began watchfully, resorting to effective counterattacks as Eugenia landed some head shots. The Indian executed her straight punches and uppercuts to take the first round.

The 21-year-old Indian moved around well as she displayed her jabs and combinations to dominate the second round. She relied on her counter-punching in the final round to record a fine victory. Anamika will meet Australian Worlds bronze medallist Kristy Harris.

Anamika. • TWITTER@BFI_OFFICIAL

Asian bronze medallist Shiksha, who had a first round bye, warded off a strong challenge from Argentina's Milagros Herrera and posted a 5-0 victory.

The 25-year-old used her counterattacks, including some well-directed jabs and right hooks, to stay ahead of an attacking Milagros.

Another Asian bronze medallist, Jaismine secured a 4-1 verdict against Youth Olympics silver medallist Porntip Buapa of Thailand.

**The results (Indians unless specified):**

**Preliminary rounds: 50kg:** Anamika bt Eugenia Anghel (Rou) 5-0; 54kg: Shiksha bt Milagros Herrera (Arg) 5-0; 60kg: Jaismine Lamboria bt Porntip Buapa (Tha) 4-1.

**On Wednesday: 75kg:** Saweety Boora lost to Kerry Davis (Eng) 3-2.

# Djokovic, Swiatek sweep into quarters

## Zverev gets past de Minaur, Tsitsipas overcomes Khachanov

ITALIAN OPEN

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
ROME

Novak Djokovic strolled into the Italian Open quarterfinals on Sunday with a routine 6-2, 6-2 win over Stan Wawrinka, while Iga Swiatek continued her bid for a fifth straight tournament victory by beating Victoria Azarenka.

Chasing a sixth title in Rome, Djokovic took one hour, 16 minutes to get past his Swiss opponent without stretching himself and will now face Felix Auger-Aliassime in the last eight.

### Swiatek 'wins ugly'

World No. 1 Swiatek claimed her 25th straight victory, defeating Azarenka 6-4, 6-1 despite a rocky start.

Swiatek had to come back from losing the first three games of the match and then battled through a series of long games before finally breaking Azarenka's resolve early in the decisive second set.

"I'm happy that I could kind of win ugly in the first set, then improve in the second. It gives me confidence that even when my game is not hundred percent good, I can still win matches. So it works both ways."

Alexander Zverev and Stefanos Tsitsipas could face off in the semifinals of the men's tournament after both making it through to the quarterfinals.

World No. 3 Zverev saw off Alex de Minaur 6-3, 7-6(5) in the early match on centre court to set up a last-eight clash with Cristian Garin, who beat Marin Cilic 6-3, 4-6, 6-4.

Monte Carlo Masters champion Tsitsipas was forced to work harder for his 4-6, 6-0, 6-3 win over former Paris Masters winner Karen Khachanov.

In the last eight Tsitsipas will take on local hero Jannik Sinner, after he saw off Filip Krajinovic 6-2, 7-6(6).

**Digging deep:** Tsitsipas had to work hard for his win over Khachanov. •REUTERS

**The results: Men: Third round:** Djokovic bt Wawrinka 6-2, 6-2; Garin bt Cilic 6-3, 4-6, 6-4; Ruud bt Brooksby 6-3, 6-4; Zverev bt de Minaur 6-3, 7-6(5); Tsitsipas bt Khachanov 4-6, 6-0, 6-3; Auger-Aliassime bt Giron 6-3, 6-2; Sinner bt Krajinovic 6-2, 7-6(6).

**Women: Third round:** Sakkari bt Gauff 6-4, 7-5; Jabeur bt Putintseva 6-3, 6-3. Sabalenka bt Pegula 6-1, 6-4; Teichmann bt Rybakina 6-7(3), 6-3, 7-5; Andreescu bt Martic 6-4, 6-4; Swiatek bt Azarenka 6-4, 6-1; Anisimova bt Collins 6-2, 6-2.

**Doubles: Second round: Men:** Koolhof & Skupski bt Middelkoop & Bopanna 7-6(3), 6-3.

**Women:** Hradecka & Sania bt Rybakina & Samsonova w/o.

**LIVE TELECAST**

**Badminton:** Thomas & Uber Cup, Sports 18 & Voot Select, 10.30 a.m.
**IPL 2022:** Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.

**IN BRIEF**

**Bucks rally to push Celtics to the brink**

LOS ANGELES

Milwaukee Bucks erased a double-digit fourth-quarter deficit to beat Boston Celtics 110-107 on Wednesday. The Celtics are on the brink of NBA playoff elimination while Memphis Grizzlies stayed alive with a 134-95 drubbing of Golden State Warriors.

**The results: EC:** Boston 107 lost to Milwaukee 110 (Milwaukee leads 3-2); **WC:** Memphis 134 bt Golden State 95 (Golden State leads 3-2). AFP

**Jokic is MVP again**

LOS ANGELES

Denver Nuggets' Nikola Jokic was named NBA Most Valuable Player for the second straight season on Wednesday. The 27-year-old Serbian star averaged 27.1 points per game with 13.8 rebounds and 7.9 assists as the Nuggets finished sixth in the Western Conference. AFP

**Inter wins Italian Cup**

ROME

Inter Milan won the Italian Cup on Wednesday after coming from behind to beat Juventus 4-2 after extra time at the Stadio Olimpico. AP

**Srikkanth bereaved**

CHENNAI

Former India cricket captain K. Srikkanth's mother Indhira Krishnammachari passed away here on Thursday. She was 81.

# De Bruyne puts on a masterclass

## The Belgian's four-goal effort helps City rout wolves and move closer to the title

**EURO LEAGUES**

REUTERS
WOLVERHAMPTON

Manchester City's midfield genius Kevin De Bruyne scored four goals on Wednesday in a 5-1 win at Wolverhampton Wanderers to put his team in a commanding position to retain the Premier League with two games remaining.

At Molineux, the Belgian scored the third earliest hat-trick in Premier League history with a sumptuously-placed finish in the seventh minute, a clever follow-up to a rebound in the 16th, and a curler from the edge of the box in the 24th before notching a fourth after the break as the away fans alternated between chanting "Kevin De Bruyne" and "Champions of England".

Raheem Sterling completed another easy win for City with his 84th-minute goal.

The win leaves Pep Guardiola's side top on 89 points, three ahead of Liverpool whom it also leads on goal difference, with the title now firmly in its sights.

Matheus Cunha and Rodrigo de Paul scored with close-range strikes to earn Atletico Madrid a 2-0 win at Elche on Wednesday, securing Diego Simeone's side a top-four LaLiga finish and Champions League qualification for the 10th straight season.

**Phenom:** De Bruyne stretches to slot in his fourth goal. • GETTY IMAGES

**The results: Premier League:** Leeds 0 lost to Chelsea 3 (Mount 4, Pulisic 55, Lukaku 83); Leicester 3 (Vardy 54, 62, Maddison 70) bt Norwich 0; Watford 0 drew with Everton 0; Wolves 1 (Dendoncker 11) Manchester City 5 (De Bruyne 7, 16, 24, 60, Sterling 84).

**LaLiga:** Osasuna 1 (Oier 9) drew with Getafe 1 (Torro 20-og); Alaves 2 (De la Fuente 7, Escalante 59) bt Espanyol 1 (De Tomas 14-pen); Sevilla 0 drew with Mallorca 0; Elche 0 lost to Atletico Madrid 2 (Cunha 28, De Paul 62).

# Indian paddlers rule the roost

## Win 11 of 12 golds at South Asian junior & cadet event

SPORTS BUREAU

India made a clean sweep of all but one title in the South Asian junior & cadet table tennis championships which concluded in Male, Maldives on Thursday.

India didn't participate in the junior boys' team event as it had already qualified for the Asian junior championships. Bangladesh won the event in India's absence.

Indian paddlers won 11 titles out of the 12 at stake with P.B. Abhinandh winning three which included cadet team, singles, and doubles events.

Suhana Saini (junior girls) and Jennifer Varghese (cadet girls) won a treble each.

**Great campaign:** The Indian team which dominated the South Asian junior & cadet TT championships in Male. • TTFI

**The results (finals):**

**Boys: Juniors: Singles:** Payas Jain bt Yashansh Malik 11-9, 9-11, 11-5, 11-3. **Doubles:** Ankur Bhattacharjee & Patil Deepit Rajesh bt K.C. Dulsen & T.D. Wijesinghe (SL) 11-8, 11-4, 11-9.

**Cadet: Team: India bt Pakistan 3-0** [P.B. Abhinandh bt Muhammed Ahmed 7-11, 11-6, 11-7, 11-5; P. Balamurugan bt Abbas Amjad 11-4, 11-4, 11-8; Priyanu Bhattacharya & Abhinandh bt Muhammed Ahmed & Abaas Amjad 11-5, 11-7, 11-8].

**Singles:** Abhinandh bt Balamurugan 11-4, 11-5, 11-7. **Doubles:** Abhinandh & Balamurugan bt Muhammed Ahmed & Abbas Amjad (Pak) 11-5, 11-5, 12-10.

**Girls: Juniors: Team: India bt Sri Lanka 3-1** [Suhana Saini bt Bimandee 11-7, 11-6, 11-5; Mani Nithyasree lost to Ayla Chitty 11-2, 4-11, 8-11, 6-11; Yashaswini Ghorpade bt Maneesha 11-3, 11-4, 11-7; Mani Nithyasree bt Bimandee 11-8, 11-6, 12-10].

**Singles:** Suhana Saini bt Yashaswini Ghorpade 11-9, 8-11, 11-8, 11-9. **Doubles:** Suhana & Yashaswini bt Swarna Sri Bandra & Chitty Ayla Sharik (SL) 11-3, 11-5, 11-9.

**Cadet: Team: India bt Nepal 3-0** (Jennifer Varghese bt Evana 11-1, 11-5, 11-4; Hansini bt Bianca 11-3, 11-6, 11-6; Jennifer & Sandika Bhattacharjee bt Evana & Bianca 9-11, 11-7, 9-11, 11-9, 11-8].

**Singles:** Jennifer bt D. Fatima (Mdv) 13-1, 4-11, 11-5, 11-13, 11-6. **Doubles:** Jennifer & Sandika bt Fawad Hoor & Hassan Haiqa (Pak) 11-6, 11-6, 11-4.

# Indians hooked on '80s drugs: Sumariwalla

## AFI president says he is doing his best to curb the menace of abuse

**ATHLETICS**

STAN RAYAN
KOCHI

Despite big names like discus thrower Kamalpreet Kaur and javelin thrower Shivpal Singh – both Tokyo Olympians – failing dope tests recently, the Athletics Federation of India is not working on any new steps to curb the menace.

"What more can we do? They have been educated, they are well informed on what they can and cannot take and they are not new athletes," AFI president Adille Sumariwalla told *The Hindu*.

Sumariwalla. • FILE PHOTO

"If an athlete wants to 'commit suicide', I cannot stop anybody. Everybody is aware. I have said in every talk of mine, at the Nationals, stay away from dope.

"All the testing that we have to do, we are doing. I have pushed for the Bill on doping, now the Bill is coming. What more can I do?" Sumariwalla asks.

Doping is a big business the world over and new drugs pop up every year. But the flavour in India appears to be different.

"Every time the new (WADA) list comes, national camp attendees are updated, but none of them are hooked on new drugs, they are caught on 1980s drugs," said Sumariwalla. "Which means they are all picked up from the local market somewhere. They are not some fancy synthetic drugs."

Incidentally, Kamalpreet, who was sixth at the Olympics, tested positive for stanozolol, the steroid which forced Canadian Ben Johnson to leave the 1988 Seoul Olympics in disgrace.

The AFI's choice of countries – like Turkey, the Czech Republic and Poland – for overseas camps ahead of major games have also raised eyebrows in many quarters.

But Sumariwalla found that strange and explained the advantages of Antalya, where many Indians are currently training.

"The number of doping cases in India are more than in Turkey," said Sumariwalla. If at all anyone was complaining it should be Turkey, he remarked.

# Equal prize money from new TT season

## In all National zonal tournaments

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The Committee of Administrators (CoA), running the affairs of Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI), passed a historic order on Thursday that would offer equal prize money for men and women in all the National zonal tournaments including National championships across age groups.

> This is the idea of Justice Ms. Gita Mittal, CoA's Chairperson, who strongly believes in equal prize money
>
> — SURINDRA DEV MUDGIL, CoA member

A statement from the CoA read: "We hereby decide that women and girl players shall receive equal pay/awards/prize money as their male counterparts in all tournaments and competitions." Speaking to *The Hindu*, CoA member Surindra Dev Mudgil said: "We will be implementing the new prize money from the new season. This is the idea of Justice Ms. Gita Mittal, CoA's Chairperson, who strongly believes in equal prize money."

# Jyothi not to rest on her laurels

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Smashing the National record in her debut international race was no mean feat but hurdler Y. Jyothi does not want to get carried away by the achievement. Instead, she is ready to put in the hard yards to bring laurels for the country.

The 22-year-old Jyothi smashed the 100m hurdles National record at the Cyprus International Meet at Limassol on Tuesday, clocking 13.23s to better Anuradha Biswal's 13.38s (2002).

"I will learn as I compete more. It was a great experience running my first international race but don't want to think too much on this," Jyothi aid.

# World Cup: Savita optimistic

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BENGALURU

The Indian women's hockey goalkeeper Savita on Thursday said the side's aim is to "make it to the next level" in this year's FIH World Cup after finishing in the last eight stage four years ago.

The event will be jointly hosted by the Netherlands and Spain in July.

In the 2018 edition of the showpiece in London, India lost 1-3 to Ireland in penalty shoot-out to crash out of the competition. But this time around, Savita says India is well prepared to make the medal rounds.

"With more players getting international exposure, and having gained confidence to play top teams in big-match scenarios, we are heading in the right direction of building a strong team for the World Cup," she said.

"The aim this time is definitely to make it to the next level."

**ROUND-UP**

**Big win for Sree Gajanana**

BENGALURU: Sree Gajanana FC blanked RS Sports FC 4-0 in the BDFA B-division football league on Thursday.

**The results:**

Goans 0 drew with South Indian 0; Sree Gajanana 4 (Jay Shanker 28, Jonna Giri Neranjan 33, Alagaraswamy Mariappan 60, K. Harish 63) bt RS Sports 0; Royals 2 (K. Edison 30, G. Bima Reddy 54) bt SunRise 0.

**RIT triumphs**

Ramaiah Institute of Technology (RIT) defeated Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology (NMIT) 64-50 in the final to clinch the State-level open inter-collegiate basketball championship conducted by NMIT.

**The result:**

RIT 64 (Rohan 18, Pratyanshu 15) bt NMIT 50 (Sumanth 16, Bhuvan 15).

# Karnataka tops group, makes quarters

## Tamil Nadu falls short despite big win over Arunachal

**HOCKEY**

SPORTS BUREAU

Tamil Nadu won 12-0 in its final league match of Pool F at the 12th Hockey India senior women National championship in Bhopal on Thursday, but it wasn't enough for the team to book itself a quarterfinal spot in the competition even as Karnataka topped the group to advance.

N. Rubasri scored a hat-trick for Tamil Nadu but the result could only help the team finish second in Pool F behind Karnataka, which remained undefeated in its three league games. Karnataka's final league match against Andaman & Nicobar was called off after the latter did not participate, forfeiting the match.

In Pool G, Uttar Pradesh beat Gujarat by an identical 12-0 margin to become the seventh and penultimate quarterfinalist in the competition with Shreya Singh scoring four goals for the winner. In the last game on the day, Delhi beat Goa 5-1 to finish second in Pool G.

The last and final quarterfinalist will be decided on Friday with the Pool H game between Odisha and Himachal Pradesh being the decider. The teams are tied on six points from two games each.

**The results: Pool F:** Karnataka 5 bt Andaman & Nicobar (match forfeited), TN 12 (N. Rubasri 3, S. Sabarimanidevi 2, S. Soniya 2, S. Leemaroshni 2, Nivetha 2, S. Malarvizhi) bt Arunachal Pradesh 0; **Pool G:** U.P. 12 (Shreya4, Simran2, Pallavi Kumari, Reetu , B. Sarita Devi, Varsha Arya, Sonal, Anshika ) bt Gujarat 0, Delhi 5 (Manshi 2, Sonali, Sonu, Shubham) bt Goa 1 (Veena Naik).

# Shiva and Palak clinch air pistol gold

## Saurabh & Esha reign in mixed event

**SHOOTING**

SPORTS BUREAU

Shiva Narwal came up with a brilliant fare to defeat compatriot Sarabjot Singh 16-12 for the air pistol gold in the Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany.

Shiva had topped the qualification with 585, but Sarabjot (577) emerged on top in the second stage, 2.9 points ahead of Shiva.

Arjun Singh Cheema was placed sixth. Not part of the team, Asian Games gold medallist Saurabh Chaudhary could muster only 575.

In women's air pistol, Palak downed Manu Bhaker 17-9 for the gold. Palak topped qualification with 577 and Manu managed to grab the last berth with 565. Manu turned the tide in her favour with a strong fare in the second stage when she topped with 250.6, but Palak had the last laugh in the gold medal match.

Indian team bagged the mixed air rifle silver through Ramita and Paarth Makhija as they lost to 17-13 to the Polish team of Julia Ewa Piotrowska and Wiktor Sajdak.

Saurabh later joined Esha Singh to bag the mixed air pistol gold, beating qualfiication toppers Palak and Sarabjot Singh 16-12.

**Day to remember:** Sarabjot, champion Shiva and Kamalov with their air pistol medals. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

**India on top**

India is on top of the table with four gold and six silver medals. France and Poland are the only other teams to win a gold medal each.

**The results: Air pistol: Juniors: Men:** 1. Shiva Narwal 16 (249.0) 585; 2. Sarabjot Singh 12 (251.9) 578; 3. Mukhammad Kamalov (Uzb) 247.7 (577); 6. Arjun Singh Cheema 196.3) 577; Saurabh Chaudhary 575; **Women:** 1. Palak 17 (248.1) 577; 2. Manu Bhaker 9 (250.6) 565; 3. Anna Dulce (Mda) 242.8 (567); 14. Esha Singh 563.

**Air pistol mixed team:** 1. India (Esha Singh, Saurabh Chaudhary) 16 (575); 2. India-2 (Palak, Sarabjot Singh) 12 (578); 3. Georgia (Mariami Prodiashvili, Giorgi Mumladze) 16 (571); 4. Thailand (Surassawadee Bubphachat, Sarayut Thoshevee) 4 (565); 3. France (Estelle Fauchon, Theo Moczko) 16 (566); 4. Spain (Irlanda Teresa Mira-Perceval, Martin Freije Tomeiro) 10 (567). **Air rifle mixed team:** 1. Poland (Julia Ewa Piotrowska, Wiktor Sajdak) 17 (626.6); 2. India (Ramita, Paarth Makhija) 13 (628.0); 3. France (Oceanne Muller, Bastien Destefanis) 17 (626.6); 4. Germany (Franziska Driessen, Nils Palberg) 9 (624.3); 3. France-2 (Julia Canestrelli, Noe Guez Auger) 16 (624.5); 4. Czech Republic (Adela Zrustova, Vojtech Zaborec) 8 (624.9); 16. India-2 (Arya Borse, Rudrankksh Patil) 620.9.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This notice is issued on behalf of My client **Smt.Neha.K.S W/o Sri.Ashok.M** to bring the notice of the general public that the **original registered absolute sale deed,** bearing **Doc.No.BYP-1-05607/2018-19 of Book-I, stored in** CD No.BYPD265, dated.01.12.2018, registered in the office of the sub-register, Gandhinagar (Byatarayanapura), Bangalore, executed by **Sri.Erayallappa S/o Late Muninagappa & others in favour of Smt. Neha.K.S W/o Sri.Ashok.M** is missing /lost/ misplaced.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the above mentioned document, they may contact the undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All the piece and parcel of the land bearing Sy.No.2/5B, measuring 0-23.8 guntas, situated at **Madappanahalli Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore** & bounded by:

**East by : Land of Nagaraj.B,**
**West by : Land of H.Kempaiah,**
**North by : Road,**
**South by : Remaining land of same land.**

**H. Prahlada,** Advocate & Solicitor,
**For H.P.Law,** #2, 3rd Floor, Venkateshwara Complex, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-560022
M : 7760061073

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

My client **AJAY. B, Son of Late. B. P. Byanna,** Aged about 37 years, Residing at No.50/1, 7th Cross, Belegere Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore-56008, do hereby state that, have lost the Original Release Deed bearing No.5711/2019-20 dated 30.10.2019 in respect of Residentially converted land bearing Survey Number 36/1, measuring to an extent of 03.08 Guntas and Residentially converted land bearing Survey Number 36/1, measuring to an extent of 01 Acre 01.12 Guntas, situated at **Belegere Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk,** have lodged a police complaint on 12.05.2022 at Bangalore City Police. Whoever finds the documents kindly handover the documents to any of us at our Advocate having office at **Jury Legal Solutions,** No.8, 14th Cross, 14th Main, 4th Sector, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560102. The public is hereby cautioned not to transact with anybody claiming to be the owners of the said Survey Number holding the lost original document. Any transactions made without our knowledge will be at their cost.

**M/s. Jury Legal Solutions,**
Advocates,
No. 8, 14th Cross, 14th Main, 4th Sector,
HSR Layut, Bangalore-560102.
Mobile: 9844897355 / 9902195500
Bangalore   Date : 12-05-2022

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

My client **Ramachandra B.M, Son of K. Muniyappa,** Aged about 43 years, Residing at Belegere Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, do hereby state that, have lost the below mentioned original title deeds in respect of Residentially converted land in Survey Number 35/1, measuring to an extent of 01 Acre 25 Guntas, Residentially converted land in Survey Number 35/2, measuring to an extent of 01 Acre 39 Guntas, both are situated at **Belegere Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk,** have lodged a police complaint on 12.05.2022 at Bangalore City Police. Whoever finds the documents kindly handover the documents to any of us at our Advocate having office at **Jury Legal Solutions,** No.8, 14th Cross, 14th Main, 4th Sector, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560102. The public is hereby cautioned not to transact with anybody claiming to be the owners of the said Survey Number holding the lost original documents. Any transactions made without our knowledge will be at their cost.

1) **Release Deed bearing No.4251/2006-07 dated 19.05.2006.**
2) **Release Deed bearing No.3083/2006-07 dated 05.05.2006**
3) **Gift Deed bearing No.9804/2017-18 dated 30.12.2017**

**M/s. Jury Legal Solutions,**
Advocates,
No. 8, 14th Cross, 14th Main, 4th Sector,
HSR Layut, Bangalore-560102.
Mobile: 9844897355 / 9902195500
Bangalore   Date : 12-05-2022

**DEFENCE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY**
(Deemed to be University U/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956),
Girinagar, Pune - 411 025.

**ADMISSION NOTICE**

Ph.D, M.Tech, M.Sc in Food Technology & M.Sc in Material Science JULY, 2022

Defence Institute of Advanced Technology is an autonomous Institution, fully funded by the Department of Defence Research & Development, Ministry of Defence, established with the objective of imparting Post Graduate Education in Engineering and Applied Sciences on thrust area relevant to Defence, Industries, R&D and also to conduct research in the Core areas of Defence Technologies.

DIAT invites applications for the Ph.D. programme under Institutional Scholarship Category, in Engineering and Applied Sciences Departments. Details of Branches / Programmes and other terms and conditions are available at **www.diat.ac.in**

In addition to the above, Industry Sponsored candidates, Project Staff from DRDO Laboratories & DIAT (JRF/SRF/PA) & Candidates with CSIR-NET, DST, UGC-NET or any other National fellowship / scholarship available to them are also eligible to apply for Ph.D admission.

Admission for M.Sc in Material Science and M.Tech programme at DIAT will be held through CCMN-2022 & CCMT-2022 respectively.

Details for M.Sc programme for Industry Sponsored candidates are available at **www.diat.ac.in**

Aspiring candidates for Ph.D programme, may apply online for admission from **17/05/2022 to 16/06/2022**. Hard copy of the online application along with relevant documents must reach to Joint Registrar (Academics), DIAT (DU) Girinagar, Pune-411025 latest by 1730 hours on or before **21/06/2022.**

**Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society, Bengaluru**
*(A Government of Karnataka Institutions)*
No. 8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor,
Cunningham Road, Bengaluru - 560052

No.: KREIS/Admin/CR-09/2021-22/Call-2   Date: 11.05.2022

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**
(Through E-Tendering Only)

The Tenders have been invited for Supply of **mosquito net to Residential School / College students under Karnataka Residential Education Institutions Society, Bengaluru** from eligible agency through e-Portal vide website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on **12.05.2022**. The last date for receipt of tender is **25.05.2022**. The details may be viewed at above website.

*Sd/-* **Executive Director**
**KREIS, Bengaluru**

DIPR/CP/LC/484/2022-23

COVID-19, DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public are hereby informed that my client is intended to purchase the immovable property described in the Schedule below from M/s.Gemini Shares and Stocks Private Limited, (hereinafter referred to as Owner for the sake of brevity) and the said Owner has represented my client that the Schedule Property has been purchased/ acquired for a valuable sale consideration from M/s.PSK Finance Solutions Private Limited, under a Deed of Sale Dated 14.09.2015, registered as Document No.1984/2015-16 of Book-I, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Malleshwaram, Bangalore and further represented that the said owner is in peaceful, vacant, lawful, uninterrupted possession and enjoyment over the Schedule Property as ABSOLUTE OWNER free from all claims, encumbrance/s and litigation/s etc.,

Any person / institution / company / firm having any right, title, claim or interest of any nature in the Schedule Property or any objections of any manner whatsoever to the above sale transaction between my client and **M/s.Gemini Shares and Stocks Private Limited,** is hereby called upon to notify the undersigned and file objections/claims along-with supporting documents within **07 (SEVEN) days** from the date of publication of this Notice at the address mentioned below. If no such claim is received, it would be deemed that the above mentioned owner has clear, marketable and lawful title to the property specified below and that others do not have any claim over the same and /or claims if any will be deemed to have been waived. Any claims raised thereafter shall not be entertained or binding on my client.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of Immovable Property being Residential Vacant SiteNo.77, BDA PID No.6000017246, carved out of Survey No.85/5, of JAKKUR Village, situated at ARKAVATHY Layout, formed by the Bangalore Development Authority, in 8th Block, Jakkur Village, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 9.00 Meters, and North to South: 12.00Meters, (total measuring 108 square meters), with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface, and bounded on the **East by:** Site bearing No.78, **West by:** Site bearing No.76, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site bearing No.98.

**P. MANJUNATH,** ADVOCATE
**HM LEGAL,**
Office at No.24/10, 1ST Floor,
Haudin Road, Ulsoor, Bengaluru-560 042,
Mobile: 9945036969
(Timings: 11.00 AM to 08.00 P.M)

**ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು**
ಆಯುಕ್ತರು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿರವರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ನ್ಯೂ ಸಯ್ಯಾಜಿರಾವ್ ರಸ್ತೆ,
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಚೇರಿ, Email: superintendingengineer@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಮೈಮಪಾ/ಉ.ಆ(ಅ)/ಕಾ.ಅ.ಟೆಂ-03/2022-23   ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.05.2022

**ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ**
**ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ**

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರುಗಳ ಕೋರಿಕೆ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆಗಳಡಿ ಪುನರ್ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

| ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ | ವಿವರ | ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು | ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) | ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ | ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ<br>ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ | ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಏಪಿಲ್ ವಿಭಾಗ) | 4 | 1205.00 | 13.05.2022 | 30.05.2022 | 31.05.2022 |
| | | 13 | 915.00 | 13.05.2022 | 23.05.2022 | 24.05.2022 |

ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಸಿಂಗಲ್/ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಕವರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿದಾರರು/ಸರಬರಾಜುದಾರರು ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನ (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರವನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಿವಿಲ್ (ಪೂರ್ವ/ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ರವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. **ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ:** ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ/ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ/ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವ ದೃಢೀಕರಣ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರಬೇಕು.

ಸಹಿ/-
ಉಪ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು (ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ)
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

ವಾ&ಸಾಇ/ಮೈಸೂರು/ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಸಂ/96/2022-23